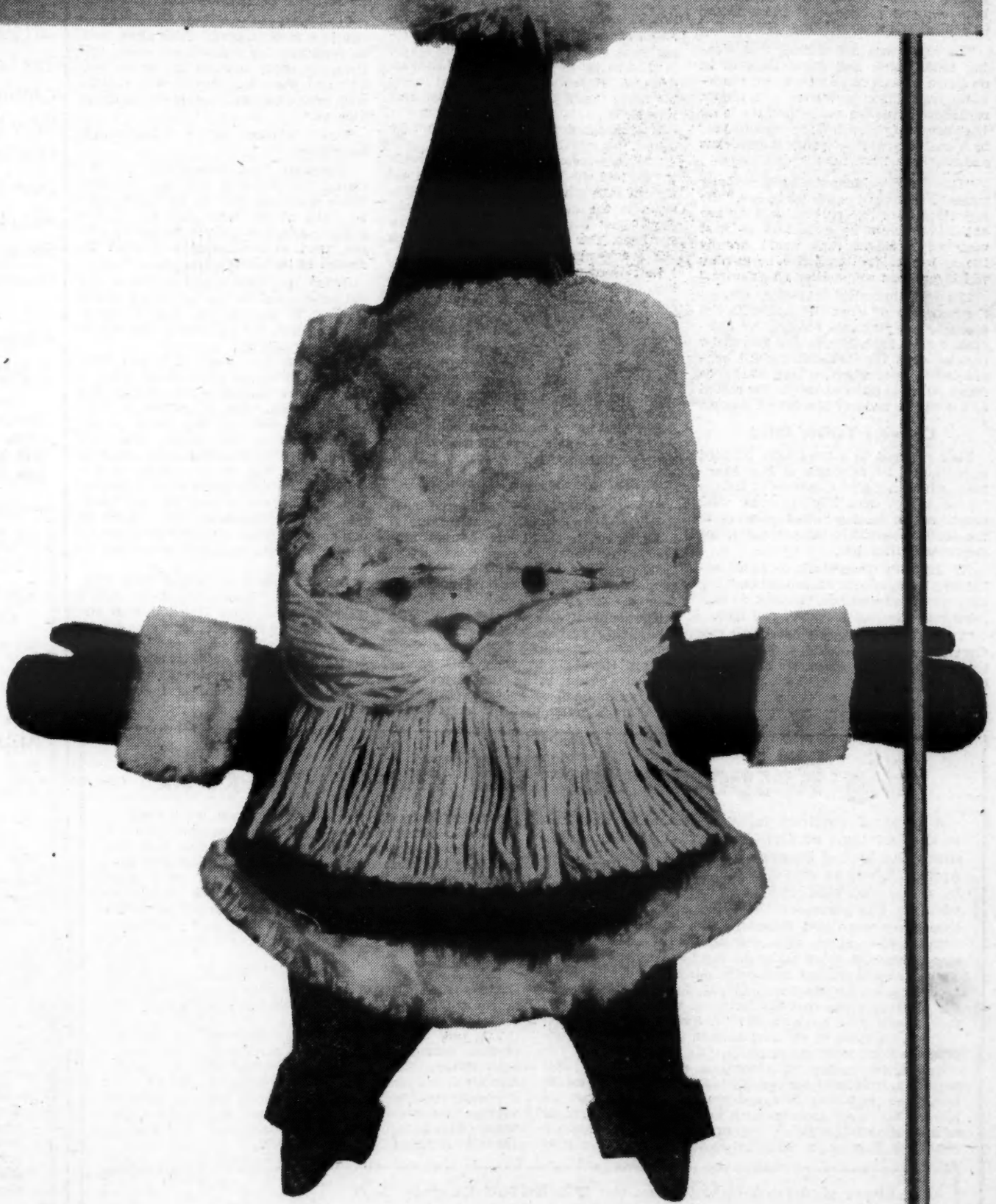




Season's greetings



The officers and staff of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union extend best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all members of the union and their families.

AFL-CIO Conference Jan. 11-13 To Press Legislative Demands

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A two-pronged legislative program—aimed at winning congressional enactment of “enlightened public-interest legislation” and heading off passage of further “unfair, restrictive” labor measures—will be hammered out by the AFL-CIO during a three-day legislative conference Jan. 11-13, 1960. Organized labor's pledge to wage a vigorous fight for passage of “a positive program for America” was contained in a formal conference call issued by AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany and Sec.-Treas. William F. Schnitzler. It went out to the officers of national and international unions, state bodies, larger city central bodies, and directly affiliated unions.

The conference, to be held in Washington's Willard Hotel, will be used for the twin purpose of advising Congress of labor's program and hearing from congressional leaders of their plans for the second session of the 86th Congress. The leaders of both houses of Congress and both political parties have been invited to address the session.

The conference call warned that, during 1960, “labor will again have to be on guard against those who would shackle the trade union movement with unfair, restrictive laws even worse than the labor law” rammed through Congress this year by a coalition of reactionary Republicans and southern Democrats.

“This time,” Meany and Schnitzler wrote to leaders of affiliated bodies, “the historic steel strike will be used by the anti-labor forces as a pretext to foist upon us measures that would destroy the system of free collective bargaining which has been so good for all America.”

The conference will take place against the backdrop of what the AFL-CIO has considered a mediocre showing by Congress during 1959. Meany and Schnitzler recalled that the AFL-CIO's third constitutional convention in San Francisco found “little to cheer about” in the record of the first session of the 86th Congress.

Congress ‘Failure’ Cited

They referred to a resolution, adopted unanimously by delegates at San Francisco, which accused Congress of having “failed to act decisively” in most vital areas and for having “acted contrary to the public interest” in the passage of the Landrum-Griffin bill.

“If the 86th Congress is to adopt enlightened public-interest legislation,” the conference call declared, “it must do that job during the first six months of 1960.”

“The AFL-CIO firmly believes that this Congress can and should adopt a positive program for America. We believe the Congress must complete action to provide for those who continue to live in economic uncertainty.”

NAM Builds Class War Fires; Wants More Anti-Unionism

NEW YORK (PAI)—The National Association of Manufacturers held its annual meeting at the Waldorf Astoria—and it developed into a clarion call for an intensification of class warfare. Featured speakers were three Congressmen who helped make the Labor Control Act of 1959 possible—Reps. Phil Landrum of Georgia, Charles Halleck of Indiana and Graham Barden of North Carolina. All three insisted that only the first step in restricting trade union activities had been taken.

“The battle has just begun,” Landrum declared. He called the law that bears his name “only the foundation for real reform.”

Barden asked the NAM itself to take a bow.

“To your organization goes great credit,” he told the NAM members. “You did the finest job in bringing that labor situation to the attention of the American people that I’ve seen in my 25 years in Congress. You did a grand job. America will always appreciate it.”

But, Barden warned, “you must get busy again. Just because you gained 30 yards, don’t let that hold you from going the other 70 yards for touchdown.”

The NAM convention, officially billed as the 64th Annual Congress of American Industry, was asked to explore the theme “Which Goals, Which Means, Which Way—America.” Some 2,500 businessmen from all parts of the country were on hand. Most of them listened politely to nearly all of the speakers but took very little part themselves.

‘Business Session’ Draws 12

The convention's only announced business session was treated as something of a side show. It lasted less than 20 minutes. Attendance: an even dozen of the 2,500 registered delegates. No resolutions were adopted. There was no discussion from the floor.

The convention's preoccupation with “the union problem” was obvious even before the formal speeches got underway. Charles R. Sligh, Jr., the NAM's executive vice president, set the theme at a pre-convention news conference.

“A major crisis in labor-management

relations is developing,” Sligh announced to reporters. He pointed out that “the steel injunction is running out on Jan. 27,” and that “the threat of a nationwide railroad strike in early spring hangs over us.”

Sligh's solution: outlaw industry-wide bargaining.

“Company level bargaining,” he declared, “is the only way we can safeguard the principles of economic freedom and at the same time protect the public against crippling strikes on the one hand, or continuous wage-price inflation as the alternative.”

Before the NAM Congress was a day old, other speakers took up Sligh's theme. Rudolph F. Bannow, the NAM's incoming president, led off with a slap at collective bargaining.

“As a rule,” he charged, “union leaders start by asking about three times as much as they expect to get. Management counters with what is possible or with nothing, in order to have room for so-called collective bargaining. After two months of yelling at each other, they go into all-day and night sessions. Somewhere in the early hours of the morning when nobody knows what they are doing, the mediator comes in and suggests to management that if they will grant a fringe gimmick, maybe a strike can be avoided . . .

“After 20 years of signing these gimmicks, industry has finally got so loaded up it can no longer function with the so-called work rules. Consequently, a rash of strikes in both large and small industry has broken out.” Bannow, the new NAM president, is president of the non-union Bridgeport Machines, Inc., Bridgeport, Conn.

gere in Paris, the opera in Rome and much, much more.

Special arrangements have been made through both the tour agency which planned last summer's fine tour and the American Travel Association, a labor-sponsored non-profit cooperative organization, to provide the touring RWDSUers with the best of everything at the lowest possible cost. An added feature of the 1960 trip will be an opportunity in each country to meet labor and government leaders and see something of present-day living and working conditions.

Transatlantic air transportation will be in a luxurious Douglas DC-6C. Hot meals will be served during the flight by the three stewardesses, and beverages of all kinds will be available to passengers.

This tour is open only to union members and members of their immediate families who accompany them (member's husband, wife, child or parent), and who reside in the member's own household. With a total of just 88 seats available, you'll have to act fast if you want to take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime tour. Fill in the coupon below and mail it immediately to The Record's Travel Dept., 132 West 43 Street, New York 36, N. Y.

Big Response for '60 European Tour

A flood of inquiries followed the announcement in the last issue of The Record that last summer's successful tour of Europe would be repeated in 1960. Applications and deposits for the tour are coming in at a rapid rate, and it is expected that the 88 seats on the plane will be filled even more rapidly than they were last summer.

The 1960 tour, an expanded version of last summer's pioneer venture, is all planned. It will take off from New York's Idlewild Airport on Sunday, May 29 and will return 29 days later, on Monday, June 27, to the same airport. For the four weeks that the fortunate travelers are in Europe, they'll visit England, France, Switzerland, Italy and Monaco, traveling by air from London to Paris and by luxurious motor coach on the continent.

The entire 29-day trip, including air and land transportation, fine hotel accommodations, practically all meals, tips, taxes, admission fees, sightseeing—will cost \$695 per person. This even includes such memorable entertainment as a hit show in London, a performance at the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre in Stratford-on-Avon, the Folies Ber-

Please send me information on the 1960 RWDSU European tour.

Name

Address

Where Employed

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NOTICE TO READERS

The Record's schedule of publication provides for 24 issues a year. Accordingly, the next issue will be dated Jan. 17, 1960. See you then!

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RENEWED STEEL STRIKE LIKELY JAN. 27

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Once again revealing the arrogance and disdain for the interests of employees and public alike which brought on the steel strike in the first place, Big Steel management has flatly rejected a proposal by Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell for arbitration of the issues or recommendation of settlement terms by an impartial body. The union indicated that it would accept the latter proposal to settle the strike, interrupted for 80 days while a Taft-Hartley injunction is in effect.

On the eve of Pres. Eisenhower's departure for Europe and Asia, USWA

Pres. David J. McDonald urged that the presidential Board of Inquiry set up under Taft-Hartley be empowered to "make a recommendation to the parties as to the terms of settlement of all issues in dispute."

McDonald pledged to the President that the union would then "negotiate a settlement within the framework of the board's recommendation" to avert resumption of the strike by 500,000 USWA members when the injunction expires Jan. 26.

Government Proposals

Labor Sec. James P. Mitchell, at a Dec. 8 press conference, advanced three suggestions for strike-settling machinery, two of which closely paralleled the USWA proposal. Mitchell called on both sides to either:

"Mutually and voluntarily agree to ar-
having a board recommend a settlement
which would provide the framework for
an agreement."

"Agree to request the Federal Media-
tion director (Joseph F. Finnegan) to
make a recommendation for settlement."

"Mutually and voluntarily agree to ar-
bitrate those issues which they could not
resolve between themselves."

Any one of the three methods, Mitchell
said, would constitute "a proper extension
of free collective bargaining," and would
be responsive to Eisenhower's television
plea on Dec. 3 to hammer out an agree-
ment.

In Line With Proposals

McDonald said that Mitchell's sugges-
tions either for board action or recom-
mendations by Finnegan were "certainly
in line with the suggestions we have been
making all along."

At the same time, the USWA president
disclosed that he had received a letter
from Wilton B. Persons, assistant to Pres.
Eisenhower, declaring that the White
House would name an impartial steel
board if both parties would agree to that
action.

This was the same position which the
Administration took in September, when
AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany proposed
to Eisenhower that he appoint a "non-
governmental board that would be em-
powered . . . to review the issues and
make recommendations for settlement."

Pour It On!



The plan was scuttled by the steel in-
dustry's refusal to cooperate.

The latest Mitchell proposal was re-
jected by U.S. Steel's R. Conrad Cooper,
chief spokesman for the nation's 11 giant
steel companies in negotiations with the
USWA. He said third-party recommenda-
tions would lead either to an "inflation-
ary" settlement or to proposals which the
union already has rejected.

Meanwhile the Steelworkers have de-
nounced a new million-dollar propaganda
drive of the steel industry as a "care-
fully contrived campaign to condition the
public and our members to the idea that
Steelworkers should not share" in record-
breaking profits.

The union referred to a heavy barrage
of slick brochures and expensive news-
paper ads unleashed by the industry. The
steel management campaign claims that

the companies' so-called "last offer"—
calling for inadequate economic benefits
and a gutting of work-rule safeguards—
constitutes a "fair and generous offer."

The newspaper ads, which appeared in
leading metropolitan dailies from coast
to coast, and the expensive printed bro-
chures mailed to USWA members and
so-called "opinion leaders," were meant
"to frighten some people into accepting
inferior wage agreements and watered-
down benefits," the union charged.

The union—its 116-day strike halted
temporarily by a Taft-Hartley injunction
which expires Jan. 26—served notice on
the industry that USWA members would
not be "soft-soaped" by the campaign,
and expressed confidence that the 500,000
steel workers would provide the answer
to the all-out attack with an "overwhelm-
ing rejection" of the proposal.

Can-Makers Settle with Steelworkers

The nation's can manufacturers,
—who historically pattern their con-
tract negotiations on settlements
reached in basic steel—have broken
with tradition and concluded new
three-year pacts with the Steel-
workers.

The settlement—covering 25,000 USWA
members at American Can Co. and 20,000
more at Continental Can Co.—is geared
to a 30-cent-an-hour economic package
plus continuance, without change, of
"past practice" clauses essentially sim-
ilar to contract provisions involved in
steel management's assault on basic work
rules.

Prior to the agreement, wage rates and
job classifications in the can industry
and in basic steel were identical, despite
the fact that can manufacturing is a
highly competitive field in which profit
margins are substantially lower than
those of the giant steel producers.

The agreements with American and
Continental are retroactive to Oct. 1—
the date the previous contracts expired.
The can industry continued operations
under extensions of the former pacts.

Under the can contracts, USWA mem-
bers will receive basic wage increases of
7 cents in each of the three years of the
agreement, plus an increase in job classi-
fication scales averaging another 1.2
cents per hour each year.

In addition, USWA Pres. David J. Mc-
Donald announced, the contract contains
a cost-of-living provision similar to that
negotiated last month when Kaiser Steel
Co. broke with the rest of the steel in-
dustry to reach agreement before imposi-
tion of the T-H injunction. The pact
continues the present 17-cents-an-hour
cost-of-living factor, which may be in-
creased a maximum of 3 cents in each
of the last two years of the agreement.

Unions Launch New U. S. Pay Floor Campaign

NEW YORK CITY—Optimistic forecasts on
the chances for winning a higher federal mini-
mum wage and extension of coverage under the
wage-hour law were expressed at a meeting of
top union officers on Dec. 11 at the Commodore
Hotel here. The union leaders, members of the
AFL-CIO Joint Minimum Wage Committee, map-
ped plans for winning improvements in the law
during the 1960 session of Congress.

The meeting was called by committee co-chairmen
Arthur J. Goldberg, special counsel to the AFL-CIO,
and Andrew Biemiller, legislative director of the Fed-
eration. It was attended by officers of the RWDSU
and other unions most directly concerned with mini-
mum wage legislation, including the Int'l Ladies Gar-
ment Workers, Meatcutters, Clothing Workers, the
United Hatters, Textile Workers, Furniture Workers,
Shoe Workers, Retail Clerks, Hotel & Restaurant Em-
ployees and Streetcar Employees.

Representing RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg, who was
out of town, was Exec. Vice-Pres. Alex Bail, as well
as 'Record' Editor Max Steinbock and Washington

Legislative Rep. Kenneth A. Meiklejohn.

The consensus of those at the meeting was that the
Joint Minimum Wage Committee should not only be
continued through the coming session of Congress, but
that its work should be expanded and its budget in-
creased in order to win improvements in the law in
1960.

The RWDSU was honored by the appointment of its
Washington representative, Kenneth Meiklejohn, as
director of the committee. He will supervise its staff,
in conjunction with the Legislative Dept. of the AFL-
CIO, in rallying broad labor support for the bill re-
ported out last summer by Sen. John F. Kennedy's
Senate Labor Subcommittee.

That bill, designated as S. 1046, would bring 10,731-
000 additional workers under the protection of the
federal wage-hour law, in addition to boosting the
minimum wage of the 24 million who are now covered
to \$1.25 an hour. Of the nearly 11 million who would
gain coverage under Sen. Kennedy's proposal, some 8
million are in retail and service industry.

The newly covered workers would not immediately
equal the \$1.25 hourly rate and the overtime-after-
40-hours that are planned for presently covered work-

ers. Instead, they would fit into one of two categories:

- About 4,500,000 who work for firms with a gross volume of \$750,000 a year or more would reach the \$1.25 and 40 hours in a four-year progression, starting with \$1 an hour and a 46-hour week the first year after enactment.

- The 3,500,000 employees of firms with a volume under \$750,000 would get a flat \$1-an-hour minimum 18 months after enactment, with no further step-up and no overtime provision.

The Senate proponents of the bill felt that these
modest provisions would improve the chances of win-
ning passage of the bill, whose other provisions would
also cut down seasonal exemptions in the food pro-
cessing field and bring under coverage such groups as
seamen, local transit workers, telephone operators and
loggers.

It is expected, particularly in view of the unanimity
expressed at the Dec. 11 meeting, that minimum wage
legislation will be given top priority on the AFL-CIO's
legislative program. This will be spelled out in detail
at a big legislative conference to be held in Washing-
ton next month.

New Year's Preview for Labor

Major Strikes Loom in 1960; Legislative Battles on Horizon

By ALEXANDER UHL

WASHINGTON (PAI)—A year of hard, slugging work lies ahead for American labor as 1960 comes over the horizon.

The year 1959, which came in with so many bright hopes of great achievements for all workers, has ended with few social gains won from Congress and the bitter taste of the Labor Control Act still in labor's mouth.

But instead of bemoaning the disappointments of 1959, organized labor is preparing for a determined 1960 battle to achieve many of the goals that were missed in the year that has passed. The AFL-CIO convention in San Francisco last September assessed the 1959 setbacks and laid the groundwork for the job ahead on half a dozen fronts. Here are some of them:

● The Legislative Front:

Despite the bitter attacks on organized labor of the past few years, the AFL-CIO has not turned its eyes from the broad social goals which labor is determined to achieve. The first session of the 86th Congress failed to do much about them. But Congress will have a new chance to tackle them when it meets in January. As the San Francisco convention put it:

"There is little to cheer about in the record of the 86th Congress to date. If it is to go down in history as the progressive, enlightened, public-interest body that the elections of 1958 seemed to promise, then the 86th Congress must earn its reputation in 1960."

What are the areas in which the AFL-CIO will be battling in 1960?

There is the unfinished fight for a boost in the minimum wage from the present \$1 to \$1.25 with coverage for millions of workers, especially in the retail trade, not now protected. Aid for the depressed areas where conditions are growing worse instead of better will be pressed. A renewed fight will be made for the Forand Bill extending hospital and medical assistance for those entitled to retirement under Social Security. Federal aid for school construction and a Civil Rights bill will get top AFL-CIO priority.

Repeal or amendment of the Landrum-Griffin Bill?

Capitol Hill observers doubt that much can be expected from the present Congress either to stiffen its provisions as the anti-labor forces would like to do, or to root out its worst features as labor would like. It has been pointed out that the Congress spent eight months battling over a labor bill and that there is not much reason to believe that it will take any drastic steps next year to change its work in this field.

Instead, organized labor will be shooting for the 1960 elections as the new battleground in the fight to protect labor against its enemies. Here is what the San Francisco convention did:

It authorized and directed "the Committee on Political Education to place into the hands of every member of an AFL-CIO affiliate an accurate voting record of the 86th Congress, clearly stating how each member of the Congress voted on the key roll calls on this issue, for their guidance in the 1960 federal elections."

It declared it to be the AFL-CIO's "unceasing determination to elect to national office and to the U.S. Congress men and women of liberal and progressive mind, regardless of party label, who will wipe from the statute book all laws which hamstring and hamper the growth of the American labor movement."

The 86th Congress in 1960 will have the duty to do something about the promises its members made during the 1958 elections before it starts talking about its 1960 election promises.

● On the AFL-CIO Front:

The San Francisco Convention took the unprecedented step of appointing a special committee to bring to a special 1960 convention proposals for the settlement of jurisdictional disputes. This Committee is under the chairmanship of President Al Hayes of the Machinists. It is expected that it will report to the February 1960 quarterly meeting of the AFL-CIO Executive Council which, in turn, will determine what further action is to be taken.

The year 1960 finds the merger of the AFL-CIO almost fully complete. There are only two states—New Jersey and Pennsylvania—where merger

on the State level is still to be achieved with the chances strong that 1960 will see merger fully completed.

In the face of the hostile legislation adopted by Congress with the certainty that this will add to the difficulties of organization, the San Francisco convention called for intensification of organizing efforts throughout the country "in all industries, crafts and services."

● On the Collective Bargaining Front:

Instead of drawing in its horns on the collective bargaining front as conservative business groups have been demanding, the AFL-CIO called for a bold program of bargaining goals to guide 1960 negotiations. These include better wages, improved fringe benefits and a shorter work week with no decrease in pay. The convention resolution called on Congress to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act to provide for a 7-hour day and a 35-hour week.

The AFL-CIO's collective bargaining goals are important because of the large number of important negotiations that will come up during the year.

Railroad negotiations are now getting under way under extremely bitter circumstances. For the past year, railroad management, closely following steel management's line, has been carrying on an unprecedented campaign seeking to undermine the railroad unions before the public. In addition, management is actually demanding a wage cut. The railroad unions will get solid support from the AFL-CIO in the crucial battle ahead.

In addition, important bargaining sessions are coming up in the communications, textile and electrical industries.

If the record of 1959 can be taken as any kind of accurate guide of management's determination to undermine unions, the year 1960 may see a new wave of bitter labor-management strife.

● Two Big Question Marks:

Will there be a new strike of the Steelworkers on Jan. 27, the day after the present 80-day injunction lapses?

Will there be a "summit" meeting of labor and management in an effort to bring to an end to today's labor-management warfare, as suggested by AFL-CIO President George Meany in a letter to President Eisenhower?

If there is no settlement of the steel strike and the men go out again, Congress undoubtedly will be the stage for a new wave of labor-management legislation designed to prevent tie-ups in crucial industries. Bills for compulsory arbitration and other forms of government intervention in the collective bargaining process are certain to be introduced.

Organized labor will fight every effort to hamstring it and take away its freedom. On the other hand, it has already indicated its willingness to accept responsible fact-finding bodies with the power to make recommendations, as can be done under the Railway Labor Act.

The second "imponderable," that of a "summit" conference, holds even greater possibilities. For the past five years management has been building up a whole structure of hostility to organized labor—unfair labor practices cases before the National Labor Relations Board have been reaching record heights. Pro-management NLRB decisions have encouraged the "fight-the-union" atmosphere. Labor and its leadership have come in for torrents of abuse based on the sins of a relatively few racketeers in unions who generally flourished with the direct connivance of management.



Twins!



Strike Looms at Four Big Shoe Chains in New York

NEW YORK CITY—A strike by some 850 employees of four big shoe store chains in the metropolitan area has been authorized by members of RWDSU Locals 287 and 1268, it was reported by their union officers. The 350 stores affected are branches of the Miles, National, Simco and Kitty Kelly chains.

The sticking point in the joint negotiations that led to the strike vote is the amount of a proposed wage increase. The union asked for \$10 across the board over three years, and the chains, after a dozen bargaining sessions, offered \$4. Other major demands are for dues checkoff and additional contributions to the pension plan fund.

At a union meeting on Dec. 10 at which the company wage offer was submitted, the members voted

overwhelmingly by closed ballot to reject the offer. At the same time, officers of the two locals were authorized to continue negotiations and, if in their judgment the main objectives could not be won at the bargaining table, to call a strike.

"We want to avoid a strike," said Local 287 Mgr. Sam Lowenthal. "And we'll make every reasonable concession in order to do so. But we will not yield on the principle of substantial wage increases. The companies' offer of \$4 over three years is disgraceful." Joining Lowenthal in this position were '1268' Mgr. Joseph Binenbaum, '287' Ass't Mgr. Jack Maltz, and '1268' Business Agents Sam Ringle and Irving Tuckman.

Another point on which the unions will not yield, Lowenthal said, is the inclusion of part-time workers in

any wage increase finally settled upon. The companies have thus far refused to include them in any wage agreement.

Meanwhile, negotiations with four other large shoe chains under contract to the same locals—Thom McAn, Regal, Father & Son and Kinney—have been delayed pending the outcome of the talks with the first group of chains. The agreement with Miles, National, Simco and Kitty Kelly is expected to set the pattern for the second group.

Similarly, contract talks with the Retail Shoe League, representing 300 independent stores employing more than 1,000 members in the five boroughs of New York, hinge on the outcome of the negotiations with the chains. A meeting of the independents' employees on Dec. 17 was also expected to take action to authorize a strike, Lowenthal said.

Frank Meloni Again Elected To N.J. State Legislature

TRENTON, N. J.—RWDSU Int'l Rep. Frank Meloni is one of two CIO members in the new state legislature. The other is Mercer County's newly-elected Edward J. Sweeney of the United Steelworkers. They won seats at the polls last month as two other CIO legislative stalwarts were defeated.

Union-Busters In New York Seek Harsher Laws

NEW YORK (PAI)—The encouragement given anti-labor groups, even in such a highly industrialized state as New York, by the passage of the Labor Control Act of 1959 has become painfully evident here.

The Joint Legislative Committee on Industrial and Labor Conditions, a permanent body of the state legislature, held a session here to consider such questions as minimum wages, social insurance laws and organizational picketing.

The demands made by employer groups added up to a blueprint for turning New York into a Landrum-Griffin state. They called for:

- Outlawing organizational picketing.
- Refusing unemployment insurance benefits to strikers (as well as to expectant mothers and retired workers who have some pension income).
- Outlawing the union shop.
- Dropping all curbs on injunctions against unions in labor disputes.

Assailing these proposals, State AFL-CIO Pres. Harold C. Hanover and Legislative Chairman Raymond R. Corbett declared:

"We don't think there is any logic in the argument that if there is a Federal disaster it is only fair and right that the state should import the same disaster."

Meloni, a veteran assemblyman from Camden County, and president of the South Jersey CIO Council, is a longtime member of the staff of the RWDSU, representing the International in South Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania. The CIO's first spokesman in the state assembly, Meloni is now one of the top seniority members among Democratic legislators. He is expected to carry the ball in future CIO legislative programs.

Sweeney has been active in Mercer County for many years. A vigorous spokesman for CIO policy, he can be counted upon to represent labor's point of view strongly in the state assembly.

The two defeated CIO candidates, running for re-election, were Assemblymen Richard A. Lynch of Essex, president of IUE Local 410, and George M. Miller of Union, assistant director of CWA Region 1. They had compiled distinguished records in their first terms in Trenton.

Fired Answergal Awarded \$400

NEW YORK CITY—A telephone answering service operator, fired for union activity, received \$400 from her employer, the Forest Hills Telephone Secretary, as a result of the intercession of RWDSU Local 780.

The operator, Eleanor Fessman, who was working at the company part time, joined the union last September during an organizing drive. What really provoked her boss, Robert E. Visco, however, was putting up a union notice

on the company bulletin board. He dismissed her forthwith—over the telephone.

The union petitioned the State Labor Relations Board for a hearing to get her job back. Its decision was that Miss Fessman be reinstated, but she declined. In lieu of the job, she was awarded the \$400.

"That shows how our union can protect workers against the whims of their bosses," said Local 780 Sec.-Treas. C. Dale Buckius.

Union News Walkout Seen New Year's Eve

NEW YORK CITY—A strike by some 400 employees of the Union News Co. in the metropolitan area seemed a strong possibility last week as the New Year's Eve contract expiration date neared with no sign of a settlement. After the last in a series of bargaining sessions with the company on Dec. 15, Local 906 Pres. Joseph McCarthy said that in view of management's inaction on the union's demands for a 25-cent-an-hour pay increase, the workers were preparing for a strike.

"We're going to hold to our policy of no-contract-no-work," he asserted.

At the same time, District 65 was negotiating with Union News for renewal of its contract covering employees on newsstands in the city's subway system. District 65 was also conducting talks with the Garfield News Co., which operates stands in bus and ferry terminals. The two pacts, covering 350 workers, have the same expiration date as the '906' agreement with Union News Co., Dec. 31.

District 65 and Local 906, with a common expiration date for their contracts, are cooperating closely to win satisfactory agreements for the Union News workers.

A \$10-a-week raise is also sought for its members by '65', plus pension plan coverage, Org. Max Klarer said. A 90-day extension of the '65' pact sought by

Union News has not been considered favorably by the union.

Other major demands of '906' are a severance pay plan, a pension plan and paid sick leave. The union also seeks to establish any increased pay scales as the minimums.

Local 906 members tend 135 Union News Co. stands in New York's main railroad terminals in Penn Station, Grand Central Station, in stations in Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester Counties; in Connecticut at New Canaan and Stamford; and stands in a dozen of New York's largest hotels, including the Statler, Waldorf Astoria and Commodore.

120 in Local 50 Win Big Boosts At Stein-Davies

NEW YORK CITY—Wage increases of 24 and 28 cents an hour were won in a contract renewal between RWDSU Local 50, Candy & Confectionery Union, and the Stein Davies-Stein Hall Co., employing some 120 workers.

Local 50 Pres. Frank Scida reported that the new pact, which replaces one expiring Dec. 31, covers a three-year period with the following schedule of pay increases for general help: first year, 10 cents, second year, 6½ cents, and third year, 7½ cents. Those increases, Scida explained, will be applied yearly to the workers' job classification, moving the rate up proportionately with the new boosts.

The new job pay rate for unskilled classifications in 1960 will be \$1.98½ per hour. Other classifications go beyond this minimum. Rates for maintenance mechanics will be \$2.53 for 1960, \$2.60 for 1961, and \$2.67½ for 1962. For stationary engineers, the rates will be as follows: \$2.90½ for 1960, \$2.97 for 1961, and \$3.04½ for 1962. Mechanics receive 12½ cents for the first increase, the second and third being the same as those for general help.

Improvements were also gained in vacation and holiday schedules. One week was added to paid vacations for employees with 25 or more years of service for a total of four weeks. And one paid holiday, effective in 1961, was added, making 11 paid holidays in all for the duration of the agreement. The provision for three days paid funeral leave was extended to include employees' in-laws if they reside in the same household.

All employees receive Christmas bonuses ranging from \$15 to \$60, under continuing terms of previous contracts.



PACT IS INKED between RWDSU Local 50 and the Stein Davies-Stein Hall Co. Seated, l. to r., are company president Lawrence Gussman and '50' Pres. Frank Scida. Standing around desk are union negotiating committee members and company representatives, l. to r.: Joseph Cusumano, Ellington Smith, Alfred Lubbers, Leslie Hodges, Leon Wolper, Sigmund Kaminsky, Crawford Bonow, Frank Fackler, George Price, Harry Willis, Jack Ventimiglia, John Maier, David Giles, Leon Perry and George Patrieokos.

Northeast Photo Highlights



RWDSU LOCAL 670 Executive Board sits for its portrait after completing plans for union's annual dance and entertainment at Manhattan Center Feb. 2. Business Mgr. Thomas Bagley, is seated third from right. At his right is Pres. John Finger. Others in group are, first row, l. to r.: Anna Janus, Peter Gillen, Timothy Quill, William Richmond and George Middleditch. Second row: William Mish, Robert Skae, Michael Bazant, Joseph Caliva, Sal Sicata, William Teaney, Al Kakuk and Edward Campbell. Back row: Andrew Conway, Leo T. Rizzi, William Koffer, Edmund De Lattorre, William Young and Archie Condit.



'Muzzy' Perla on the Line For Leominster Kids

LEOMINSTER, Mass.—Salvatore Perla, president of RWDSU Local 61 here, is one of the town's most active figures in community affairs.

The activity of which he's fondest, however, is sports for the town's boy population. He has just completed his twenty-second year as the handler of the 10-yard stakes in the football games of Leominster High School.

Perla, whose nickname is "Muzzy," is at the same time very active in the affairs of his union. It is a phenomenon noted by veteran observers that people who are on the move in their unions also display strong interest in community affairs. In "Muzzy's" case, that interest is strongest when it comes to helping Leominster's kids.

One of the mainstays of the RWDSU in Leominster, "Muzzy" is a charter member of Local 61, whose members work in a half-dozen plants in the area. He himself works at the Standard Pyroloxoid Co., makers of plastics products. And, in addition to serving as president of the local, he is chairman of his own ship unit.

ON THE LINE for the community of Leominster, Mass., is Local 61 Pres. Salvatore "Muzzy" Perla. He's seen at left in one of his favorite roles, handling the 10-yard stakes in the football games of Leominster H.S.



LABOR CONTROL LAW is subject of RWDSU New England Conference held in Boston last month. At microphone, left, discussing requirements of new restrictive legislation is Exec. Sec. Jack Paley. Others at dais, from left, are Joseph Reichbart, counsel of RWDSU Bay State Council, RWDSU Regional Director Thomas Leone, RWDSU Exec. Vice-Pres. Alex Bail and New England Joint Board Pres. Joseph Honan. At right, some of the 110 representatives of the 25 locals attending conference are seen as they listened to officers explanation on how new law affects union's operation.

Miles Shoemen Vote RWDSU In Miami, Fla.

MIAMI, Fla.—The employees of the local branch of the Miles Shoe Store chain voted unanimously for the RWDSU in a representation election held here recently, making it the first organized shoe store in the state of Florida, it was reported by Int'l Rep. Harry Bush. Negotiations for a first agreement were to get under way soon.

Bush said that amicable relations with the store management were expected. He pointed out that the union would use as its basis in negotiations RWDSU contracts with Miles stores in the New York metropolitan area.

There, salesmen receive \$75 a week plus 1 percent commission for a 40-hour week, while the Miami salesmen get \$60 for a 46-hour week. Non-selling help in the New York area get a minimum of \$53 for a 40-hour five-day week, while in Miami they receive \$42.

In the summer of 1958, the RWDSU lost an election at the same Miles store here, reversing the result by the unanimous vote for the union early this month. Other Miles branches in Florida are located in Palm Beach and Jacksonville.

First Supermarket Organized in Miss. Signs with RWDSU

LAUREL, Miss.—The first supermarket organized in this area was brought under contract this month when the National Food branch here signed an agreement with the RWDSU, it was reported by Org. C. T. Daniels. The union had won an election there last August.

Initial wage raises ranging from \$3 to \$12 a week, plus other benefits of an RWDSU pact, were gained through the two-year agreement covering 25 employees of the market's grocery department. A petition for an election among the meat department's four employees has been filed by the RWDSU.

The first increases, which are retroactive to Nov. 1, are to be followed by additional raises on the following schedule: five cents an hour on April 1, 1960, and five cents six months later; plus two cents on Sept. 1, 1961. In addition, the work week is to be reduced from 44 hours to 42 hours on Dec. 1, 1960, with time and half being paid after 42.

Clauses on seniority, paid vacations and holidays are also provided in the agreement.

National Food, which operates many other supermarkets throughout the South, is building others in this area of southeastern Mississippi, Daniels said.

Fired Workers Back After Miami Strike

MIAMI, Fla.—Asco Co. warehousemen here went back to their jobs Dec. 4 after a four-week walkout when two fired employees were reinstated to their jobs, it was reported by Int'l Rep. Harry Bush.

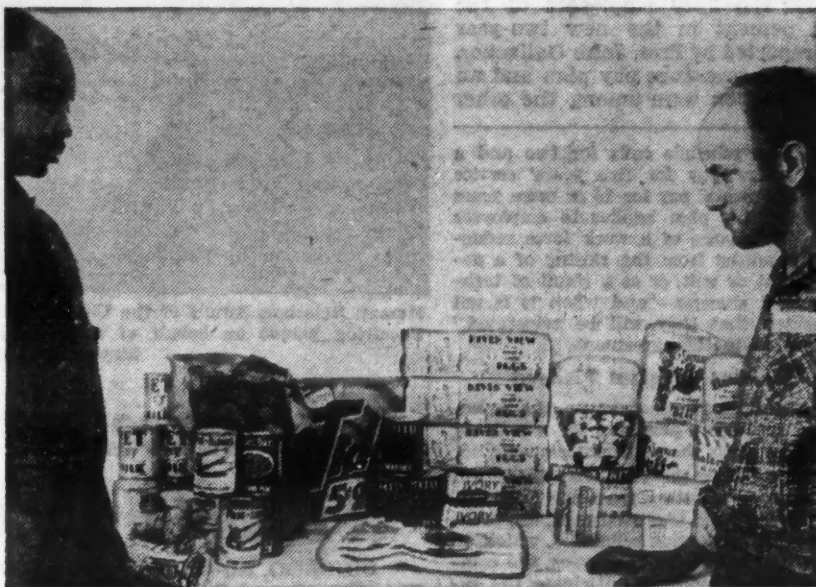
The 16 employees, who had cast their ballots for RWDSU Local 885 in a consent election Oct. 26, struck the warehouse over the dismissal of the workers who had taken time off to attend the funeral of one of their shopmates. Both were reinstated, but one had gotten another job in the interim.

Meanwhile, Local 885 was awaiting an NLRB hearing on charges filed against the company for refusing to bargain with the union. The warehouse serves an eight-store army-surplus retail chain here. The employees were organized in a drive led by Int'l Rep. Danny Klein.

Seniority, Grievance Rules Strengthened for 1,800

6c Raise, Reclassifications Won at Pasco

DADE CITY, Fla.—Renewal of the RWDSU contract at the big Pasco Packing Co. plant here has resulted in improvements in wages and working conditions for the plant's employees, who number up to 1,800 at peak production periods.



TWO STRIKERS at Wilson & Co. plant at Memphis, Tenn., study the food items contained in a typical weekly basket made available to the strikers and their families. About 5,000 members of the Packinghouse Workers, on strike at six Wilson plants since Nov. 8, ask shoppers not to buy Wilson products until settlement is reached.

Meanwhile, negotiations for new Local 43 agreements continue at two other citrus fruit processing plants in central Florida—Southern Fruit Co. in Orlando and Plymouth Products Corp. in Plymouth, each with 250 workers.

At Pasco, the world's largest citrus cannery—it uses one-fifth of the orange crop of the state of Florida in its operations—the employees won a six-cents-an-hour across-the-board wage increase. Reclassification of 11 jobs also means higher pay for a number of employees. The three-year pact, dated Dec. 11, calls for wage reopeners on each anniversary.

Seniority protection was strengthened in the agreement. Promotions, it was stipulated, are now to be based on length of service in a particular department, rather than in the plant.

Automatic Arbitration

It was also agreed that if a grievance is not settled through regular channels, it would automatically be submitted to arbitration. Under the old provision, both parties were required to approve the submission.

Another improvement is the reduction of time from 1,750 hours of work to 1,500 required before a worker is entitled to a paid vacation. It takes about a year for an employee to accumulate 1,500 hours.

The union was represented in the Pasco talks by Ass't Area Director Frank Parker, Int'l Rep. Bill Connell and Local 43 Pres. L. C. "Red" Chitty, and a committee of 19 employees representing all departments of the plant. The company was represented by Personnel Director Clark Ghiselin and attorney Theo Hamilton.

Vote Denial Hit in Ala. Election

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The inclusion of 50 laid-off employees in the voting unit in a forthcoming election at Hollywood Brands, Inc.—challenged by the company—will virtually assure an RWDSU victory, it was reported by Alabama RWDSU Council Org. C. T. Daniels.

The candy company normally employs about 200 workers. After it was organized by the union in November, the company laid off 50 employees. Though seasonal reductions usually occur at Hollywood

just before Thanksgiving, this layoff came somewhat earlier in anticipation of the approaching election, Daniels said.

At an NLRB hearing Dec. 8, the union insisted that those workers are eligible to cast ballots and should be included as part of the plant's voting unit.

Daniels believes the Board will uphold that position and that the results of the election will show a big majority for the RWDSU.

Southeast Members Got \$182,000 in Two Years

RWDSU Health Plan Eases Financial Woes

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The Southeastern RWDSU-Industry Health and Welfare Fund paid \$116,097 in benefits to members and their wives and children during the year ending Dec. 31, 1958, it was reported by the fund's joint Board of Trustees. This brings the total amount distributed during the first two years of the fund's operations to more than \$182,000 for 1,755 claims.

First contributions to the fund were paid in January, 1957. Since then, the plan has expanded rapidly throughout the Southeast. During 1958, the second year of the plan's operations, the total number of employees insured by the fund increased more than 40 percent over the first year.

"The fund has played an important role in easing the financial burden that accompanies accident, illness and prolonged medical treatment," said the Board's statement accompanying the report.

A reserve of \$32,344 had been accumulated as of Dec. 31, 1958, to safeguard the future stability of the fund, the Board reported. These reserves, the Board added, "provide a measure of assurance to each member and his family that the fund will be there to help him in his time of need."

Members of the Board of Trustees of the Southeastern RWDSU - Industry Health and Welfare Fund are as follows: Representing the union, RWDSU Ass't Area Director Frank Parker, chairman, William Bordelon, John Parker, Lester Bettice and Mrs. J. K. Casey; and representing the employers, James J. Holland, secretary, George Healey, A. E. Reger, William Goodman and W. R. Holliman.

At right are tables reflecting the financial status of the welfare fund.

Southeastern RWDSU-Industry Health and Welfare Fund

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES January 1, 1958 through December 31, 1958

INCOME	
Employer Contributions	\$158,057.43
Investment Income	87.50
Miscellaneous Income	4.00
Total Income	\$158,148.93 (100.0%)
EXPENSES	
Insurance Expense Protective Life	141,976.56 (89.8%)
Administration Expense	3,885.56 (2.4%)
Total Expenses	145,862.12 (92.2%)
Operating Addition to Net Assets and Reserve	12,286.81 (7.8%)
Dividend from Protective Life Insurance Company for the year ended Dec. 31, 1958	8,404.50
Addition to Net Assets and Reserve for the Period Jan. 1, 1958 to Dec. 31, 1958	\$ 20,691.31

NET ASSETS AND RESERVES

Net Assets and Reserves as of Dec. 31, 1957	\$11,427.21
Adjustment—to correct employer contributions due at December 31, 1957	225.60
Adjusted Net Assets and Reserves as of Dec. 31, 1957	11,652.81
Addition to Net Assets and Reserves for the year ending Dec. 31, 1958	20,691.31
Net Assets and Reserves as of Dec. 31, 1958	\$32,344.12

The Midwest

Pay Hike for 2,500 At Campbell's Soup

CHICAGO, Ill.—Hourly rates of pay for the 2,500 employees of the Campbell Soup Co. were increased three percent in the new two-year agreement with RWDSU Local 194, it was reported by Pres. John Gallacher. An increase in welfare and pension benefits, a severance pay plan and an employee's training program based on automation were among the other gains in the contract that went into effect Dec. 1.

The three percent pay boost, according to the agreement, is to be rounded off to the nearest one-half cent. The maximum, however, is 8½ cents. A wage re-opener on Dec. 1, 1960, is specified. Life insurance benefits were doubled from \$2,000 to \$4,000. Pension benefits will be increased one dollar per month for each year of continuous seniority up to the time employees become participants in the plan.

Under the severance pay plan, employees will receive sizeable sums on separa-

tion. The schedule calls for two and a half weeks' pay for five years' service up to 10 weeks' pay for 15 or more years service. This plan applies to employees laid off because of a work force reduction resulting from the closing of a department or unit, or as a result of technological changes—"and when it is not expected that they will be reinstated," according to the agreement.

Training Program Planned

Anticipating those changes, the agreement contains a provision for a training program. Says the pertinent clause:

"Recognizing the fact that there will be changes resulting from the introduction of new and improved methods, processes and production schedules, which, in turn, will affect the employees, the company will attempt to anticipate the establishment of new skilled jobs and, where practical, will assist qualified, interested employees to secure training for the new job. This shall include, but not be limited to, a review of the possible establishment of a skilled trades apprenticeship program."

Campbell has made available to its employees a savings plan whereby the company will contribute each month an amount equal to 40 percent of the employee's contributions for that month.

Gallacher led a union negotiating committee which included Division Dir. Henry Gistover, Division Sec. Josephine Lamprinos, Rec. Sec. Willie Williams, Shift Leaders Eugene Ireland and Charles Rogers, Warehouse Steward Delmar Hart, Canning Steward Claude Kindred and Machine Shop Steward Angelo Lamprinos.

New '390' Chief Hails Predecessor

CINCINNATI, O.—Dallas Clark, the new business representative of RWDSU Local 390, United Food Workers, paid a tribute to his predecessor, Fred Sommerfield, who has retired after 15 years in the service of the union.

"Fred has made this local one to be proud of, both by old and young members," said Clark. "The older members know how hard the struggle has been to build it to its present strength, and the young members will find out. It's up to each and every member to keep building to make '390' the best local in organized labor."

The members of Local 390 are employed in the warehouse of the big Kroger Co. food store chain in this city.

Clark said that the things he had learned from Sommerfield "will certainly be helpful in the years to come, not only in union activities, but in every way."

Canada

'Terrible Conditions' Bring Vancouver Shop to Union

VANCOUVER, B.C.—Negotiations are under way for a first RWDSU contract covering the employees of Leeders Pacific, Ltd., who joined Local 535 after ten years of "working under terribly bad conditions" and sub-standard wages.

Welfare Council Asks Social Benefit Change

OTTAWA (CPA)—The Canadian Welfare Council has called for a complete overhaul of Canada's social security program. In its annual brief to the federal government, the council said the present program was "piecemeal" and "unplanned." It asked that a Royal Commission be appointed to study all aspects of social security for which the government is responsible.

The council, composed of unionists, businessmen, teachers, professional social workers and community leaders, presented the brief to Prime Minister Diefenbaker and members of the Cabinet.

"The immediate need," the council told the government, "is to eliminate inadequacies and inequities" in existing programs, to improve the caliber of administration and "to ensure availability and adequacy of related health and welfare services."

The employees of the manufacturer of store freezers and show cases were recently organized into Local 535. They have not received overtime pay or any fringe benefits such as health insurance, pensions, or paid sick leave. Their wage rates range from 75 cents to \$1.25 an hour for skilled workers, including shop foremen.

The union has requested rates double those now being paid, and other working conditions and benefits now provided by other manufacturing firms in the area for employees doing comparable work on similar products.

Initial meetings with the company proved fruitless, Int'l Rep. Bud Hodgins reported, because of "the tremendous difference in wages and working conditions." A conciliation officer has come into the proceedings in an attempt to bridge the gap.

"Little progress is anticipated by the employees," said Hodgins. "They now realize that it may be necessary to use their economic strength to attain a decent status among their fellow union workers."



Human Relations Award of the City of Chicago is presented to RWDSU Local 194. Receiving plaque on behalf of union is Pres. John Gallacher, L., from Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley.

'194' Receives Chicago's Human Relations Award

CHICAGO, Ill.—The RWDSU's Local 194 is the recipient of the City of Chicago's Human Relations Award, the first labor organization in the city to be given this honor.

For its "outstanding contribution to human relations in Chicago," Local 194 was presented with a plaque by the Chicago Commission on Human Relations at its 14th annual luncheon meeting at the Palmer House Dec. 10. Receiving the award on behalf of Local 194 from Mayor Richard J. Daley was Pres. John Gallacher.

"For holding to a policy of open membership and for consistent work with management to upgrade employees it represents on a merit basis," says the inscription on the handsome framed plaque.

Mayor Daley, congratulating the winners, told the more than 400 luncheon guests that Chicago has made great progress in the field of human relations. "But we're not satisfied yet," he added.

The other two organizations cited for

their non-discrimination policies and contributions to human relations in the city were Alexian Brothers Hospital and the Lake Meadows housing development.

Local 194 was singled out among the city's labor unions for the award because of its long record of harmonious relations, both within its own membership and in the community at large. The local's 4,000 members, who work at the big Campbell Soup plant and other food processing firms in Chicago, come from a variety of racial, religious and national backgrounds. Despite these differences in origin, they have learned, under the leadership of Local 194, to work and live together in the spirit of brotherhood and to build their union into an outstanding labor organization.

Malchuk Heads '755' in Man.

BRANDON, Man.—The election of officers of the Modern Dairies unit of RWDSU Local 755, Wholesale Dairy Workers Union, here was held recently with the following results:

Elected chairman was Ernie Malchuk; vice-chairman, John Foster; secretary, Dick Pow; and warden, Lyle Smith. Returned for another year as production steward was Lyman Burton, and as sales steward, John Olynick.

The election and installation of officers were conducted by Business Agent Gordon Ritchie. He gave special thanks to the outgoing officers for their assistance in the past year and a half during which "very difficult and lengthy negotiations" were held with the company.

In other developments in Local 755 here, amendments for a new contract with the Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Cooperative, Ltd., have been submitted to the management and negotiations were expected to begin soon.

A settlement before the end of the year was seen at Hudson's Bay Co. retail store in Pine Falls, Man., where negotiations with RWDSU Local 468 have been under way.

'535' Wins Big Raises at Midwest

VANCOUVER, B.C.—Improvements in their collective bargaining agreement, featuring substantial pay boosts, have been negotiated for employees of the Midwest Storage & Distributors, Ltd., through their union, RWDSU Local 535.

The wage increases range from \$35 to \$47.50 a month over a two-year period, retroactive to last Oct. 27, it was reported by Int'l Rep. Bud Hodgins. In addition, there were several revised job classifications in the pact.

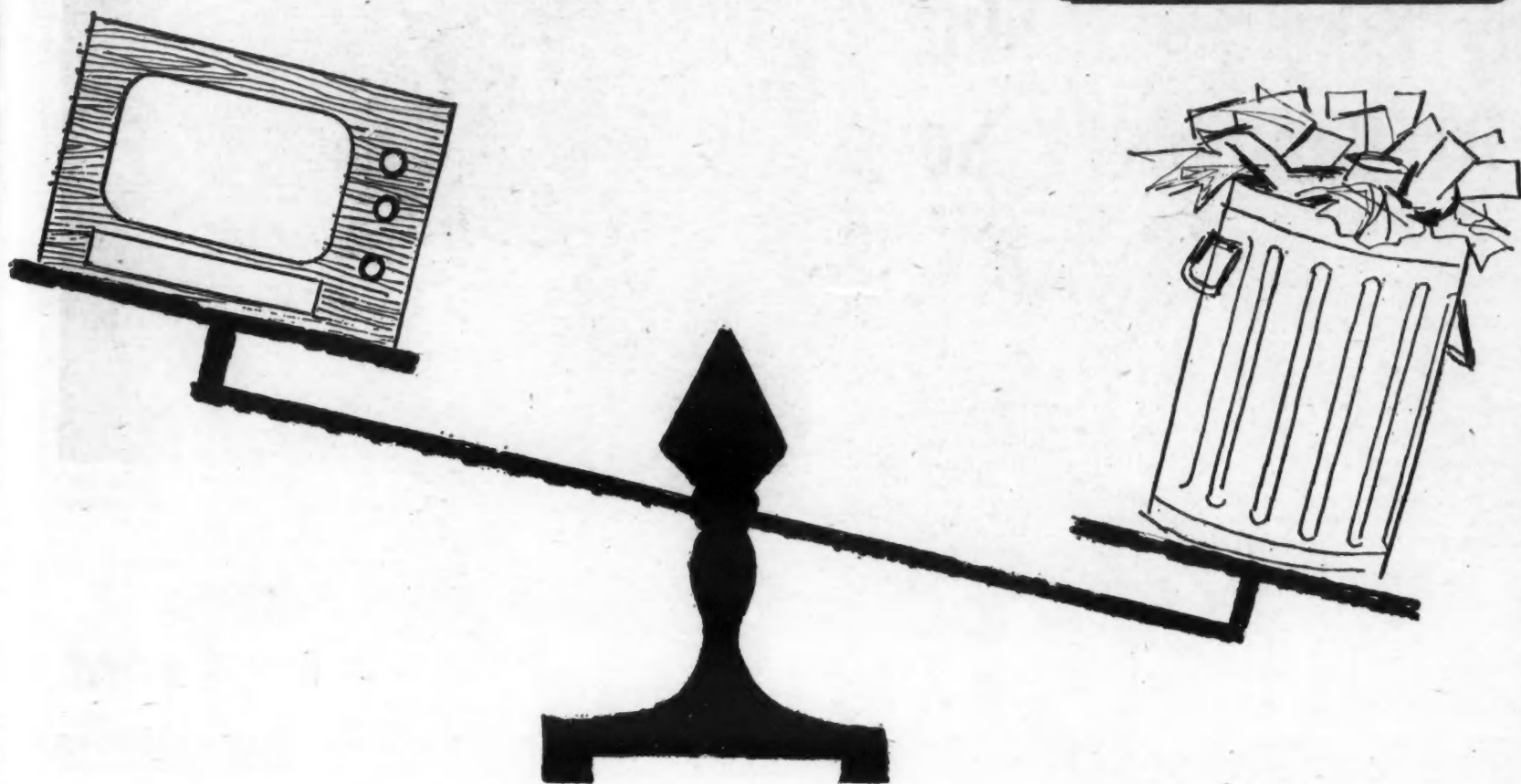
The settlement also calls for a third week's vacation after eight years of service, and an increase of supper allowance from \$1 to \$1.50.

Assisting Rep. Stan Colbert in the negotiations were committee members Murray Calder and Jerry Williams.

Drug Price Gouging?

TORONTO, Ont.—Jules R. Gilbert, president of a Toronto drug firm, says markups of 4,000 and 5,000 percent on drugs are common in Canada. That means medicines costing the drug companies 10 cents sell for \$4 or \$5 on the market.

Attorney-General Fulton has the power to stop this, Gilbert says. CCF MP Frank Howard has already announced he intends to press for a parliamentary investigation into patent medicine mark-ups during the coming session.



Payola, Rigged Quizzes Aren't All That's Wrong

Will Television Get Rid of Its Trash?

When Congress established the Federal Communications Commission in 1934 it set the standard governing the granting of radio and later TV licenses as 'public interest, convenience, or necessity.'

How well has this standard been honored?

Right now we have shocking examples of quiz show "fixes" on television, Madison Avenue fakery and phoniness on what are supposed to be honest presentations of political candidates, and apparently more is to come with exposure of the venality and greed of disc jockeys under the charming guise of "payola."

Yet, while all this corruption is reprehensible and worthy of the criticism that has been heaped upon the industry's head, the real crime of the television industry is infinitely more damaging to the American people than the actions of a relative handful of greedy little weaklings seduced by money.

The true crime is the steadily collapsing standard of programming of the giants of the industry—of their almost sickening failure to give more than lip service to the public interest, convenience or "necessity" in return for the immensely valuable licenses they have been given.

You don't have to go very far for proof.

General David Sarnoff, President of RCA, in an effort to defend TV has pointed to some of the fine shows that the industry has brought to the screen. The tragedy is that there are so few of them. Greatness, of course, is rare and no industry can be expected to produce top notch programs 24 hours of the day, seven days a week.

But it can be expected to give the American people adult entertainment, and adult and responsible news reporting instead of the tiresome, repetitious clipping of news from the ticker, as well as good music and drama and educational features.

Instead it has overwhelmed us with rock 'n' roll, with hour after hour of childish playing at cowboys and Indians, and cops and robbers, with crime and violence to a horrifying degree, with grotesque wrestling bouts and soap operas built on nonsense painfully stretched out week after week.

Sponsors, Ad Agencies Run the Show

To a shocking extent the sponsors and the advertising agencies that work for them have taken over. Top TV management has been willing to accept the role of seller of time and news wires and the technical equipment for the production of programs.

The result has been a tragic loss of quality in TV programs during recent years. With the advertiser in control, the commercial has taken over to an almost intolerable degree. It blasts at you 20 decibels higher than the program to which you are listening. It hits you with more and more frequency. Its standards of honest advertising are of the most dubious sort.

Take one little example of how the commercial has come to boss the whole show. Twenty years ago one of the most controversial questions in radio was the "middle commercial." Should a program be interrupted

in order to put in a plug for something or other? Topflight broadcasters indignantly resented the appearance of the middle commercial. Some of them refused to permit it on their shows.

Yet today not only are there middle commercials and quarter commercials and one-eighth commercials, but the broadcaster himself gives the commercials and at times it's hard to tell which he's playing—the terpsichorean artist or the shill for the lipstick.

What has happened is that in its pursuit of the advertiser's dollar, the industry has catered to the lowest common denominator of public taste and public intelligence. More and more it has turned its back on a large and growing segment of the American people who feel that the air waves are worthy of something better than being used as schools for juvenile delinquency or as a medium for the least adult forms of entertainment.

Many Americans Shortchanged by TV

Without being stuffy about it, many Americans feel that their needs and desires in the field of TV are being ignored, that in a sense they have been disinherited so far as TV is concerned.

Need this be?

Nobody wants government censorship. But that doesn't mean that the government must stand by idly—as the FCC has done too long—and protest that it has no power in the matter. It has power. For that matter, many good lawyers will tell you that the FCC has all the power it needs to crack down on abuses, to insist that the TV industry live up to proper standards.

Networks operate through channels, via franchise. Channels belong to the public: the people. But most people don't know this. They don't know that just as a channel can be given to a company, it can be taken away from that company if it doesn't live up to its obligations. They are bamboozled with cries of the wickedness of government interference even in an area—that of the air waves—that obviously can't be privately owned but must be government owned.

Other nations have tackled this problem and adopted varying solutions. In Great Britain the BBC is government-owned. It has proved conclusively that there can be adult entertainment that is by no means dull, but highly stimulating and educational. Even the privately owned area of the British system must compete with the best that the BBC offers and the competition has proved healthy.

It will be unfortunate if the Harris committee now investigating TV limits itself simply to the fraudulent. It should also concern itself with whether the men who have received immensely valuable public air channels that have permitted them to make fortunes for themselves are living up to the standards on which their licenses are based.

Public ownership of a major channel, cooperative ownership, pay TV—these are all matters that should be explored so that we may get not only honest TV but grown-up TV.

—Public Affairs Institute—PAI



—Contemporary Illustration from Bettmann Archive

Story of 1894 Pullman Strike Carries a Lesson for Today

"INJUNCTION GRANTED" blazed across American newspapers as a crucial development in the current dispute between the Steelworkers Union and the steel industry. What is the effect of a court injunction on labor-management disputes? How have court injunctions been used in the past? The following chapter from Katherine Shippen's "This Union Cause" (Harper and Bros., \$2.50) tells the story of how a court injunction was used in the railroad strike of 1894.

By KATHERINE SHIPPEN

An injunction is a court order which a judge may issue at his own discretion. It may forbid picketing, making speeches, holding meetings, distributing leaflets, or doing a dozen other things. Anyone who disobeys an injunction may be held in "contempt of court" and punished for such disobedience without a jury trial. The injunction is a very powerful weapon indeed, as Americans were soon to find out. It was effectively used when the workers of the Pullman Palace Car Company went out on strike in 1894.

The scene of the action was the town of Pullman in Illinois. That town is part of the city of Chicago now, but it was originally a separate town owned and managed by the Pullman Company. George Pullman, head of the company, spoke of it as a "model" town, and pointed with pride to the little brick houses that were grouped around grassy squares. Here lived the employees of the factories, workshops, and mills, and the company owned every stick and stone in the place—the houses, the school, the church, the library, the grocery store—all these belonged to the Pullman Company. The Pullman Company also owned and operated all the utilities in the town—the water, gas and electricity, and also the garbage disposal.

The men knew that the rents they paid for their houses were generally 25 per cent higher than they would have paid for similar houses in neighboring communities. Utilities and food in the company store were correspondingly high. But there was nothing they could do about it.

Then a business depression struck the country, and the Pullman Palace Car Company found its orders falling off. The company had to find some way of cutting corners, though it did not wish to cut the 8 per cent dividend it paid to stockholders. Therefore, it laid off 5,800 employees, and announced that it would cut the wages of those men who remained on the payroll by about 30 per cent. No provision was made for lowering rents, however, and charges for services and food at the company stores were as high as ever.

Now the men found the money in their pay envelopes dwindling. They received generally somewhere between one dollar and six dollars for two weeks, after their debts to the company had been paid. One man got fifty cents.

The men decided to hold a meeting to discuss what could be done. Since there was no hall in the town of Pullman where they were allowed to meet, they went to a neighboring town. They decided that they would send a committee to talk things over with Mr. Pullman.

Mr. Pullman said there was nothing he could do about the matter. Almost immediately, three men who were members of the committee were notified that they were discharged.

So 2,500 workers of the Pullman Company went on strike. By noon next day 800 more walked out. The company posted a notice on its gate announcing that the plant would be shut indefinitely.

The American Railway Union was an organization of railway employees of which Eugene V. Debs was head, and the Pullman strikers now appealed to this union for help.

Debs was greatly opposed to any kind of violence. He advised the strikers to see Mr. Pullman again and try to arbitrate. But Mr. Pullman said there was "nothing to arbitrate." So the American Railway Union agreed to help the Pullman men.

On June 21, 1894, they met in convention and gave Mr. Pullman an ultimatum. Unless he agreed within four days to negotiate a settlement with the employees, a strike would be ordered. Mr. Pullman again said there was "nothing to arbitrate."

Then on every railroad that ran into Chicago there was a boycott of the Pullman Palace cars. Railroad men who were members of the American Railway Union refused to inspect, switch, or haul any Pullman cars. This was a very serious matter for Pullman. His company was a member of a powerful organization called the General Managers Association, which was a group of railroad executives.

The General Managers Association knew what to do. They ordered that cars carrying mail be attached to the Pullman cars. Then, if a switchman cut a Pullman car from the track, he also cut off a mail car—he was interfering with the United States mail. In addition to this, they ordered that all men who refused to handle Pullman cars be discharged.

That resulted in a general strike on the railroads.

Things happened quickly after that. The General Managers Association called on the United States marshal at Chicago for special deputies to prevent obstruction of mails and to protect their property. The Attorney General of the United States authorized the hiring of 2,600 deputies who were armed and paid by the railroads. The bill amounted to \$400,000.

It was clear that violence might result, and John Peter Altgeld, governor of Illinois, held the militia in readiness. But the Managers Association would not wait. Richard B. Olney, who was Attorney General, charged the union with conspiracy to restrain transportation and obstruct the United States mail. And forthwith Judge Peter S. Grosscup issued an injunction against Debs and sixteen other union officials restraining them "from in any way or manner interfering with, hindering, obstructing, or stopping" any of the business of the railroads entering Chicago or any trains carrying United States mail or engaging in interstate commerce.

Then Olney prevailed on President Cleveland to send federal troops to enforce the injunction. Four companies of the 15th Infantry were soon patrolling the railroad yards.

Debs called a convention which was scheduled to meet in Chicago, July 12, 1894, for the purpose of discussing a sympathy strike throughout the United States. Since this was construed as disobedience to the court's order, he was imprisoned, together with three other Railway Union officials.

So the Pullman Company and the General Managers Association had their way. The railroad strike was called off August 5, 1894, and the men at Pullman went back to work on September 6 of that year.

President Theodore Roosevelt said some time later:

"It is all wrong to use the injunction to prevent the entirely proper and legitimate actions of labor organizations in their struggle for industrial betterment, or under the guise of protecting property rights unwarrantably to invade the fundamental rights of the individual. It is futile to concede, as we all do, the right and necessity of organized effort on the part of wage earners and yet by injunctive process to forbid peaceable action to accomplish the lawful objects for which they are organized and upon which their success depends."



Casting an admiring glance in the direction of the Soviet Union during a speech he made earlier this year, Crawford H. Greenwalt, president of du Pont, bemoaned the impact of taxation on our country's upper crust.

"There seems to me," said the du Pont chieftain, "to be considerable irony in the fact that the United States, a free nation, taxes individual rewards at rates reaching 91 percent, while in totalitarian Russia . . . the maximum income tax rate is 13 percent."

True enough, the Soviet now is developing its own upper crust. While the impact of income taxes on this privileged group is slight, the average Russian citizen foots the bill through a steep turnover tax imposed upon consumer purchases. Certainly, the U.S. income tax could be abolished entirely were the Russian type of turnover tax applied to the American consumer.

Despite Mr. Greenwalt's lament about the lack of incentives, and in spite of alleged confiscatory tax rates, America's upper crust is still considerably better off than its Russian counterpart.

The 91 percent tax bite cited by Mr. Greenwalt is more fictional than real. Such a tax rate is good propaganda for the National Association of Manufacturers, but nobody pays it, not even on the last dollar of a multi-millionaire's income.

Income tax officials have stated that the highest tax bite even theoretically possible is 87 percent. They answer "probably not" when asked if anybody pays such a rate on any part of his income.

As in days of yore, it seems there are ways to make a million and to keep it as well. Today, tax evasion and tax avoidance have been elevated almost to the realm of pure science. Because the former is illegal, more and more of our upper bracket are turning to the latter. The result has been a boom for tax accountants and tax lawyers, many of whom are paid a healthy percentage of all that is saved for their clients.

Some of our most respectable citizens, however, still go in for tax evasion on a broad scale. The National Bureau of Economic Research has estimated conservatively that some 30 percent of the income of doctors, lawyers, farmers, and various small businessmen is never even reported.

Money earned illegally is taxable, but few who get such money are bothered by tax ethics. The result is that a sizable sum is lost annually to Uncle Sam because gamblers, call girls, and racketeers join with more respectable citizens in failing to report all that comes their way.

Cars at Company Expense

The businessman who pays for his own car in this day and age is considered a sucker by a growing number of his brethren. The thing to do is to have the firm lease or purchase the vehicle which may be used only incidentally for business purposes. The purchase price is charged off against the firm while the businessman in question rides free on gasoline credit cards also provided by the enterprise.

Most working mothers, by contrast, are not permitted to deduct for tax purposes any part of the cost of child care necessary to their employment.

Nobody seems to be above pulling a fast one on the tax collector. As a result, more than 60 percent of all interest collected on savings accounts and most of all other interest goes unreported. A substantial portion of dividend income also goes unreported. And it is indeed the rare landlord who hasn't found a way to pad his maintenance expenses for tax purposes.

Then there is the family partnership device. This permits the businessman to take even his newly born babe into the firm as a partner. Surtax rates are avoided and the extra cash stays at home.

There are definite advantages in belonging to the upper reaches of today's corporation dominated world. Not the least of these are the non-wage emoluments provided by the firm. Since no direct money payments are involved in these privileges, they come tax free.

Country club memberships provided by the firm are better than salary increases to the executive echelons. The company justifies these as a business expense and the executive need not bother even to report the "advantage" on his income tax form.

The same, of course, holds true for free vacations at company-owned lodges where executives are sent to "rest" or to attend "conferences." Swanky apartments in town for the executive who "works late," yachts for the weekend "business" conference, and similar non-cash benefits are now an accepted part of tax-free upper crust life.

The story of life on the expense account has been

Plenty of Tax Loopholes for the Rich

told and retold in sober studies and in fiction. This life goes on apace, with the approval of the tax collector. U.S. News and World Report has noted as a matter of information for its business-minded readership that tax agents don't bat an eyelash when top executives spend on a lavish scale on the tax-free expense account.

In many a firm, the young executive is considered a "scab" unless he keeps up with the free wheeling expense account crowd. The battle over who picks up the lunch tab is largely a status gesture since it's on the house and tax-free regardless of who pays.

Expense account living is estimated to cost some \$5 billion at the very minimum. The loss to the U.S. Treasury in tax revenues is estimated at between \$1 and \$2 billion. Under present circumstance, it is virtually impossible to tell where the legitimate business expense ends and where personal gain begins.

About a year ago, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service declared that it was time to close up this gaping tax loophole. It bravely announced that in the future all expense account living would have to be spelled out and accounted for with the filing of personal income taxes.

The reaction from the business community was instantaneous and uproarious. The Internal Revenue Service beat a hasty retreat rather than face the wrath of big business and others directly affected. Today, this tax dodging device is as much in evidence as ever.

For those who can afford them, there are always tax-free state and municipal bonds. Many of these pay an excellent interest and each coupon clipped is a 100 percent gain.

Extra Profits in Bonds

Because such bonds carry a high interest rate, they often sell at prices significantly higher than face value. This permits the buyer who purchases such a bond to report a loss when it comes due, since the market value is greater than the face value.

The bond buyer, in the meantime, will have received an excellent tax-free return over the years in which the bond has been held. Bond dealers and favored customers have been known to trade bonds back and forth to assure largely fictitious losses at tax time. So flagrant is this practice that the Treasury at one time tried to plug the loophole, but to no avail.

Then, of course, there's the capital gain. And where, indeed, would today's wealthy be without it?

In their concern with the businessman's initiative, the nation's lawmakers have chosen to treat profits on investments far more tenderly than earned income. The effective tax rate on such gains is a maximum of 25 percent, no matter how great the profit.

Business lobbyists have worked long and hard to enlarge the capital gains loophole. Today, income received as coal royalties, on the sale of unharvested crops, from

patents, and from livestock breeding are subject only to capital gains rates.

Thanks to a Congress that kept the initiative of the upper crust well in mind, the capital gains provision was broadened in 1950 to include profits made through the exercise of stock options.

A stock option is a right granted to executives and other favored company employees to buy a given amount of stock at a price arbitrarily set by the board of directors. Usually, this is below the current market price.

When the stock rises, the favored few may exercise their options and sell at a nice profit. The profits so made are then subject only to the capital gains tax rates. Should the price decline, the executives need not exercise their options. Thus the favored few can't lose since the procedure is like betting on a horse race after it is run.

'Incentives' for Management

Management incentive plans are becoming increasingly common in industry. The plan in General Motors disbursed some \$90 million among company executives just a few years back. Of course, income received from such plans is taxable at regular rates and this has presented a problem.

Bib business is resourceful when the compensation of its big brass is involved. It is now seeking to make its incentive plans virtually tax-proof against earned income rates.

The story of depletion allowances is hardly new. The favored treatment of profits made from the oil industry has created a special class of millionaires. Special treatment for oil profits made abroad has resulted in fantastic fortunes at home.

Depletion allowances on profits made have not been limited to oil by any means. Profits made on almost any mineral get favored tax treatment. Even oyster shell profits are treated with special concern because, like oil, these are allegedly subject to depletion and ultimate exhaustion of the supply.

In the world of big money, it is indeed more blessed to give than to receive. The wealthy art connoisseur who has purchased a painting only to find that it has increased significantly in value has an excellent way of solving his tax problem. By donating the art to a museum, the donor may deduct the higher value from his income for tax purposes. Should he choose, he may deduct the value in installments over several years to keep out of surtax brackets.

As might be expected, the crop of art connoisseurs has grown. Today, it's possible even to deduct half the value of a painting by letting a museum hang it on its walls for half of each year.

Tax Savings in Philanthropy

The value of art is often a matter of opinion. As things stand now, a wealthy tax avoider may purchase art wholesale at a given price, have it evaluated piece by piece to obtain a significantly higher total price tag, and then donate it around the country for a profitable tax loss.

Stocks or other property may be given to a charity on the same basis. Or a trust may be established under which the gift will go to charity upon the death of the giver, or even his direct heirs, with the dividends or other proceeds going to the donor and heirs over their lifetimes.

While the small taxpayer benefits through the split income device, it is a special boon to the wealthy. By splitting income between husband and wife, the receiver of a \$100,000 annual income can save \$14,000 in taxes annually.

These are individual income tax dodging devices that are perfectly legal. For the corporation, there are similar ways of getting around the 52 percent corporation tax. These run from purchase of tax-loss corporations to manipulation of inventory values.

Tax erosion has become a serious matter, mocking the principle of progressive taxation. When a 91 percent tax rate is entirely theoretical, there is little point even in mentioning it.

A serious effort to plug up tax loopholes and to restore really progressive taxation is long overdue.

In the first session of this Congress, four liberal Democrats introduced a bill to raise \$2.5 billion in tax revenue by eliminating special tax credits on dividends, abolishing "luxury" business expense account deductions, setting up a withholding tax system for dividend and interest payments, and slashing depletion allowances. Needless to say, their effort was quickly smothered.

As of now, real tax reform seems improbable. If it comes, the wealthy are likely to be the chief beneficiaries as they were in 1954.



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2.—For Pimples on the Face, Blackheads, or Fleshworms, use PERRY'S COMEDONE and PIMPLE REMEDY, an infallible skin medicine; or, consult Dr. B. C. PERRY, Dermatologist, 49 Bond Street, New York. Both these medicines are sold by Druggists.

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"We have supplied these rings to Harrison, Cleveland, Boston, Denver, Cincinnati, Newark, and other eminent men. Their effect is marvellous. Price \$1 plain finish, and \$2.50 heavy gold-plated. All sizes. For sale by Druggists and Jewelers, or we will mail it, postpaid, on receipt of price and size. There is absolutely no other ring but Dr. Bridgman's possessing real merit for the cure of Rheumatism. Beware of imitations."

The A. Bridgman Co., 375 Broadway, N. Y., and 1124 Masonic Temple, Chicago.

By MOE FONER.
Editor, Local 1199 Drug News

Miracle drugs may be reaping most of the medical headlines these days, but old-fashioned remedies like Dr. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, Dr. Hobson's Corn Husker's Lotion and India Turnip Root are still in the picture.

In fact, many of these potions, according to a recent survey in the Wall Street Journal, are making a comeback of sorts. The big drug and cosmetic companies are taking them over, finding that when pepped up by modern advertising and promotion gimmicks some of the old standbys still can produce hefty profits.

Just recently, Lanolin Plus, Inc., producers of cosmetics and vitamins, purchased the 106 year-old family-owned Dr. Hostetter Drug Co. of Pittsburgh. A company spokesman told this writer a plan is in the works to give the old tonic a lift with a national TV and newspaper advertising campaign.

The formula for the product, which is currently selling at a \$2 million yearly rate, will remain essentially the same as it was in the 1890's when the Hostetter Almanac recommended it for businessmen, merchants and bankers who risk their health in the "petty cares of gain" and also for the "reckless votary of pleasure who bankrupts his constitution with fashionable dissipation." These folks, the Almanac explained, need Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, "known in the most remote regions of the habitable globe" to "repair shattered health and increase diminished vitality."

Last year, Bristol-Meyers Co. bought Grove Laboratories, producer of Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic, Bromo Quinine and 4-Way Cold Tablets. Warner-Lambert Pharmaceutical Co. has a full stable of old-timers, including Sloan's Liniment, Listerine and Hood's Sarsaparilla, as well as Blackberry Root and Ginger, Sutherland's Eagle-Eye Salve, Chamberlain's Colic Relief and King's Discovery. The last named was originally advertised as "The Only Sure Cure for Consumption in the World" and for this reason, "Strikes Terror to the Doctors."

The old tonics usually were compounded from herbs, roots and iron, often with a generous swig of alcohol added for good measure. In its heyday, Hostetter's Bitters' alcoholic content ran to 47 percent. As a matter of fact, the makers of Hood's Sarsaparilla declared that its therapeutic powers were independent of weather conditions. It had never been known to freeze.

In his thoroughly entertaining and informative book on the patent medicine frauds, "The Golden Age of Quackery," Stewart H. Holbrook notes that 70 years ago, Americans were spending millions yearly for "positive cures" for consumption, cancer, gallstones, female complaints, cholera, rheumatism, lost manhood, dyspepsia, gout, yellow fever, piles and blind staggers for horses.

"From 1820 on," writes Holbrook, "there was not only a nostrum for every ill; there were a dozen nostrums for every ill" touted to relieve everything from coughs to corns. As examples, he cites William Gannett's Oxien, compounded from "the fruit of the Boabab tree, would cure drunkards and make weak women walk." The promoter of "the famous Thacher Magnetic Shields" thundered in newspaper ads, "I want to say I can cure any disease that afflicts the human race."

Though many of the old-fashioned elixirs still survive, hundreds have disappeared, and the industry, still after a fast buck, has only a fraction of the companies it had in the days when there were nearly as many drug makers as there were creative pharmacists.

Sales of older proprietary remedies are strongest in rural areas, especially in the South, which has spawned many of them and has served as a primary market for most of them. The highest per capita sales for Lydia Pinkham's Vegetable Compound are in Florida and Georgia while Hadacol, the somewhat alcoholic tonic that underwent a furious national promotion campaign about 10 years ago, has simmered down but still sells well in parts of Louisiana.

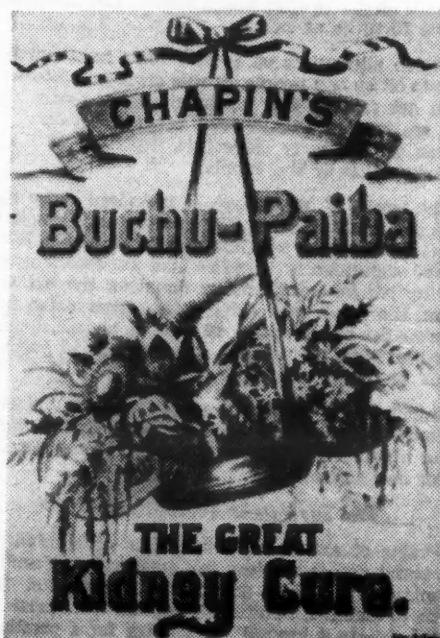
Federal government checks on their contents have forced some revision in formulas and advertising. No company today, for example, has yet to proclaim, as did Plough Co. back in 1908, that its Antiseptic Healing Oil was "a sure cure for any ill of man or beast."

Lydia Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, first prepared by a New England matron in New England, has also changed with the years. When it first came out, it was advertised as "the greatest remedy in the world" for "all diseases of the kidney." For more than a century the trade-mark likeness of Lydia Pinkham's motherly countenance on a printed page was the best-known female face in the United States.

When the FDA forced the company to drop some of its additional claims for treating disorders in 1925, the firm then put this nebulous statement on its label: "Recommended as a vegetable tonic in conditions for which this preparation is adapted."

As for the future, many drug manufacturers believe that household remedies and patent medicines will be around for years to come. Daniel Pinkham, vice president of the Pinkham concern, figures: "We have another 50 years or so to go."

Drug Companies Reviving Old-Time Patent Medicines



Why Prescription Drugs Cost So Much

This is the second in a series discussing reasons for the high price of drugs and medicines. Future articles will discuss other aspects of the problem, which is now also under investigation by the Senate Anti-Trust Committee.

By DAVID W. ANGEVINE

Last year a trainload of Wisconsin doctors and their wives journeyed to Detroit for a long weekend of high living, courtesy of one of the big drug manufacturers, Parke-Davis & Company.

On Thursday they boarded a special 10-car vista-dome train in Milwaukee, checked in at Detroit's swankiest hotel, attended a reception and banquet, then went "out on the town"—all at the drug company's expense. On Friday they enjoyed another round of night clubbing in nearby Windsor, Ont. On Saturday the drug company took them to the Wisconsin-Michigan State football game at East Lansing.

All this is part of the \$300 million the drug companies spend each year to "reach" the nation's 200,000 physicians. The doctors don't buy their products, but the doctors write the prescriptions that their patients buy. The doctors are the key.

This \$300 million is 15% of the companies' \$2-billion-a-year sales of prescription drugs. Fifteen cents of every dollar your druggist pays for the bottles that line his shelves goes to inform, counsel, entertain—and sometimes bamboozle—physicians.

For example, Pfizer Laboratories each year arranges golf tournaments throughout the country exclusively for physicians. James Cook of the New York Post tells how each doctor gets free golf balls imprinted with the Pfizer seal, free green fees, free lessons from the club professional, free drinks at the 19th hole, and a free dinner.

At Birmingham, Ala., Pfizer took 460 doctors on a fishing trip and then to a barbecue. "We hired the fishing boats, provided the equipment, and practically guaranteed the catch," a Pfizer official told the Wall Street Journal. Next month Pfizer sales rose 51% in Birmingham, compared with a 9% gain in nearby Mobile.

Dr. Louis Lasagna, co-editor of the Journal of Chronic Diseases and professor of medicine and pharmacology at Johns Hopkins University, says the drug industry has greater influence on medical practice than all the post-graduate courses for doctors, medical meetings, and published information in the medical journals put together.

The effect of the drug companies' mail advertising, TV shows, movies, salesmen, and lavish entertainment is that more and more physicians prescribe drugs by brand name. As the brand names multiply each year through the proliferation of combinations and variations of existing preparations, so do the bottles that line the druggists' shelves. The cost of this inventory and the planned obsolescence of last year's "wonder drugs" result in soaring prescription

costs for the doctors' patients.

Can the drug industry purge its own house? Dr. Lasagna doubts it. He told Harry Willensky of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, "Drug houses feel they have to come out with new products—or new combinations and forms of old products—to make it appear they are on their toes. When a competitor comes out with, say, antibiotics plus vitamins in one capsule, the conservative firm may think this is a lot of baloney but still may be impelled to follow suit in a fight to retain its share of the market."

Besides, it pays off. Parke-Davis & Company profits in the recession year of 1958 were 32c of every sales dollar; Upjohn 28c. In 1957, Abbott Laboratories had 22c profit on every sales dollar; Eli Lilly, 33c; Pfizer, 33c; Smith, Kline & French, 35c. (All figures are pre-tax profits.)

In 1955 the drug makers were sufficiently concerned about their public relations to ask the University of Chicago's National Opinion Research Center to examine public attitudes. Did people blame them for the high cost of prescription drugs? The answer was a comforting, "No."

The Center discovered that 38% of the people thought prescription costs were much too high, and 28% thought they were somewhat high. Most of these people, however, didn't blame anyone in particular. Among those who did, the retail pharmacist was much more likely to be blamed than the drug manufacturer.

How to Keep Down Costs As Food Prices Skyrocket

By **SIDNEY MARGOLIUS**

Consumer Expert for The Record

Food bills rank today as one of the biggest financial problems for moderate-income families, a recent survey by the Metropolitan New York Consumer Council found. Only housing and medical care are as much a source of concern, reported both the families and the educational directors of unions, credit unions and family agencies questioned in the survey.

Eating costs are even more troublesome in a number of other cities. New York is about average. A market basket of 12 food staples checked by this reporter averaged \$5.34 for the U.S. as a whole, but much more in some cities, especially the Pacific Coast. Here are costs of the market basket in various representative cities, based on Bureau of Labor Statistics reports:

Atlanta, \$5.32; Boston, \$5.52; Chicago, \$5.23; Cleveland, \$5.32; Detroit, \$5.37; Kansas City, \$5.12; Los Angeles, \$5.89; Minneapolis, \$5.48; New York, \$5.34; Pittsburgh, \$5.57; Portland, \$5.58; St. Louis, \$5.32; San Francisco, \$5.83; Washington, D.C., \$5.35.

Food spending of different families varies greatly. U.S. Agriculture Department home economists calculate that the typical U.S. family currently spends about \$8.50 a week per person for food. But the Consumer Council found some families spending as little as \$7.50 per person, and some as much, actually, as \$12 and \$14. That big an expenditure need not be.

Tips to Stretch Your Food Dollar

T. J. Castner, wholesale food buyer for Eastern consumer cooperatives, recently offered, out of his own many years of experience, these tips for keeping down food bills:

1—Don't let advertisers and merchandising experts persuade you to buy merchandise you don't really need or that isn't suitable. Buy on the basis of your own needs and with as close examination as possible. "Anything we buy we can form our own judgments on," says Mr. Castner.

2—Buy the grade best suited to your cooking purposes. Generally, there are three grades. In canned goods, the three qualities are sometimes labeled Grade A, B or C. Chief differences are in appearance and sometimes in texture or tenderness, but not in nourishment. The economy Grade C is just as nutritious as the costly Grade A. In canned string beans, for example, the Grade A are uniform in appearance and color; Grade B are almost as attractive in appearance, while Grade C consist of short-cut beans of varying size, and possibly less tenderness.

The most expensive grade is rarely worth buying. The Grade B is an all-purpose grade which can be bought when appearance is important. But Grade C is the buy when the cooking method is going to change the appearance, texture and even flavor, as in a stew.

Mr. Castner points out that chain supermarkets traditionally offer the lower grades cheap as a leader, and then have one or two higher-priced grades on which they make a bigger profit.

3—"We've been conditioned to buy everything under a nationally advertised brand name," Mr. Castner warns. He advises looking for the unadvertised brands of canned goods and other groceries. He reports that the price difference between the nationally advertised and the unadvertised brands is generally 5-10 per cent on canned fruit and 10-20 per cent on canned vegetables.

4—In comparing different brands of canned goods, note the amount of liquid. The Government sets a minimum fill for the drained net weight. But some packers give more solid food above the minimum, and less liquid, than others.

5—Check the number of ounces on the container even though various brands seem to be the same size. The assumption by manufacturers is that most housewives are poor at arithmetic and don't want to make the necessary comparisons of weights. The tendency of detergent manufacturers especially is to use odd sizes. Lestoll, which is a pretty good product anyway, is one brand which at least is packed in standard pints and quarts while the competing products use bewildering odd sizes.

6—Instant coffees are cheaper because they can use the lower grades of coffee such as African. There is a difference in quality in instant coffees too, although six or seven widely sold brands do come from the same roasting plant and are much the same. If you pay regular price for instant coffees nowadays you're not on your toes, Mr. Castner advises. There are frequent "deals," such as 10 cents off, 15 cents off, etc.

7—You also have to watch out for the tendency of manufacturers to do additional processing which adds little to value and sometimes even diminishes quality. Manufacturers "stabilize" peanut butter by mixing shortening with it so the oil won't separate. Some brands become so adulterated that the Food and Drug Administration recently stepped in and said they could no longer be called peanut butter, and established standards. "Co-op Old-fashioned" peanut butter is simply ground peanuts with no stabilizers. When oil does separate in old-fashioned peanut butter, it's easy enough to stir up, the merchandise expert pointed out.

8—More humbugging occurs in frozen foods than even in canned, Mr. Castner warns. He especially questions the need for such products as frozen soups and pineapple concentrate. The price difference in frozen and canned soups is almost 50 percent, he points out.

Freezing gives better color but not necessarily better flavor, he advises. Nor is it necessarily true that frozen products which look good, also taste good. Nor is there as much nutritional difference between frozen and canned produce as the public sometimes believes. Much depends on how the individual crops and products were handled in the packing process.

The nationally advertised brands of frozen produce sometimes cost almost twice as much as the equivalent canned goods. The supermarket private brands, on the basis of the net weight of the contents, may cost only ten percent more than the canned equivalents, advises Mr. Castner.



FOOD BUDGET

Take Me Home!

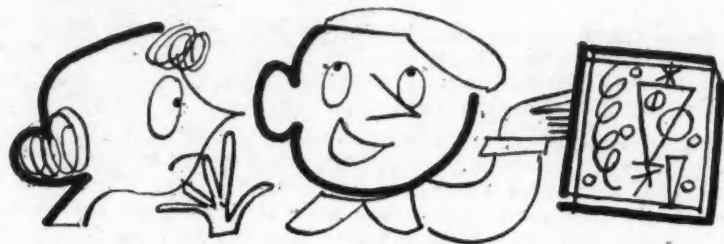
B. JANE GOODSELL

We were invited to a small gathering in honor of an eminent artist, and we accepted with pleasure. The date was two weeks away, and we would probably have accepted an invitation to climb Mt. Everest. Two weeks in the future is too far away to worry about.

But on the day of the party, I began to worry. Meeting important people makes me nervous and, although I had never heard of the eminent artist, he sounded alarmingly distinguished.

I made a last-ditch effort to escape by announcing that I thought maybe I was coming down with a cold. My husband told me not to be a dope, and assured me that there was nothing to be afraid of.

He promised to stay close by my side all evening. Five minutes after we arrived at the party, he abandoned me.



The room was filled with people clustered in tight little knots, holding energetic conversations. I stood in a corner until my hostess steered me into a small group of people who were listening to an intense young man.

He acknowledged my introduction with a nod and then made an effort to draw me into the group.

He said in my direction, "I was just saying that it is Sorbleau's handling of grays and blacks which gives his work its impact. His paintings combine sophistication with a spiritual quality. They give one a sense of the ineluctable modality of the infinite, don't you agree?"

It took me a minute to answer. I tried to look thoughtful. Then I said, "Yes."

Immediately another intense young man spun on me. "But what of his yellow period?" he demanded. "Surely you can't think his 'Highball in Three Tenses' is spiritual or sophisticated!" The young man seemed very



excited, "Highball" is ingenuous, childlike, almost primitive," he shouted. "It has a charming naivete, a flaunting disregard of perspective and a sensual use of color!"

He glared at me, waiting for an answer. "I-I'd forgotten about his yellow period," I stammered. I didn't even know whose paintings we were arguing about. "Excuse me, will you?" I added, fleeing toward a tray of hors d'oeuvres.

A distinguished gray-haired man was helping himself to some smoked salmon. "Interesting contrast of color and texture," he murmured. "The fleshy pink of the salmon against the granular quality of the cracker."

"Yes, isn't it?" I agreed crazedly.

I looked in a panic for my husband. Instead I found my hostess with her eminent artist in tow, standing beside me. She introduced us and drifted off, leaving me wondering wildly what to say.



—Drawings by Marjorie Glaubach

I lifted the tray of hors d'oeuvres from the table. "Won't you have some, please?" I said insanely.

"Thank you," said the eminent artist.

"Thank you," I said. And then, since something more seemed to be required in the way of conversation, I added, "The fleshy pink of the salmon is an interesting contrast against the granular quality of the crackers, don't you think?"

The eminent artist nodded courteously. "It tastes good, too."

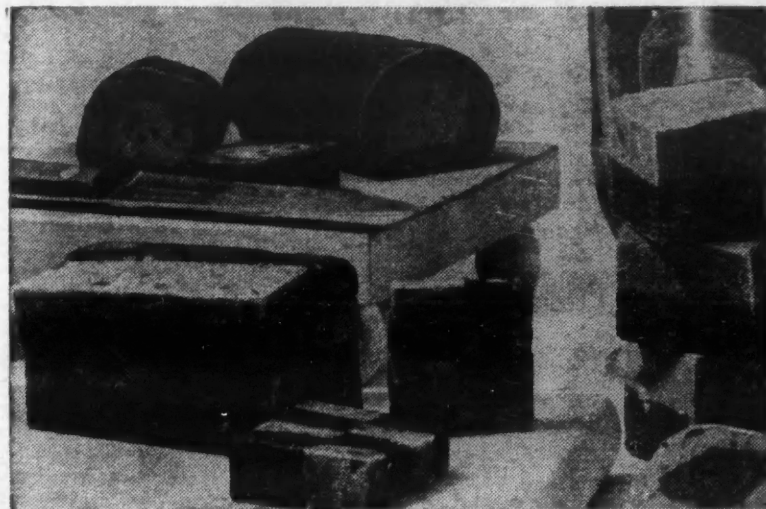
"I suppose so," I agreed, "if you like smoked salmon."

I was beginning to feel on familiar ground for the first time. But just then we were interrupted by someone who wanted to ask the artist's opinion on post-impressionism. I once again set about finding my husband.

When I did he introduced me to a young man who informed me that he was in a most grievous dilemma. He knew everything about art, but he didn't know what he liked.

I informed my husband that it was time to go home.

Fancy Fudge, Simple Method



Fancy fudge is easy to make, delightful to eat. "Secret ingredient" that turns the homemaker's kitchen into a master candy chef's cookery is contained in cans of evaporated milk.

By DOROTHY MADDON

Here are fudge recipes—wonderfully good ones—that require no strong-arm methods, no thermometer-gazing and no cold-water tests.

It's all done with evaporated milk, and preparation takes only five minutes. Make fudges in two flavors and colors if you like; golden caramel and rich, dark chocolate. Combine them in checkerboards, two-toned squares or bull's-eyes design.

Almond Fudge Fancies (About 4 pounds)

Chocolate Fudge: Two-thirds cup (small can) undiluted, evaporated milk; 1 2/3 cups sugar, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1 1/2 cups (16 medium) diced marshmallows, 1 1/2 cups semisweet chocolate chips, 1/4 teaspoon almond extract.

Mix evaporated milk, sugar and salt in saucepan over low heat. Heat to boiling, then cook 5 minutes, stirring constantly.

Remove from heat.

Add marshmallows, chocolate chips and almond extract. Stir one-to-two minutes, until marshmallows melt. Pour into buttered, 9-inch square pan.

Caramel Fudge: Two-thirds cup (small can) undiluted evaporated milk, 1 2/3 cups sugar, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1 1/2 cups (16 medium) diced marshmallows, 1 1/2 cups caramel chips, 1 teaspoon vanilla, 1/2 cup chopped, toasted almonds.

Mix evaporated milk, sugar and salt in saucepan over low heat. Heat to boiling, then cook 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat.

Add marshmallows, caramel chips, vanilla and almonds. Stir one-to-two minutes, until marshmallows melt. Pour into buttered, 9-inch square pan.

Two-Toned Fudge Squares: Prepare chocolate fudge and cool 30 minutes. Prepare caramel fudge and pour over chocolate fudge. Cool 30 minutes. Cut into squares.

Checkerboard Fudge: Prepare chocolate fudge and cool 30 minutes. Prepare caramel fudge and pour over chocolate fudge. Cool 30 minutes. Cut into 18 half inch strips.

Rebuild slices into stacks of four layers each, alternating caramel and chocolate fudge strips.

Wrap tightly in waxed paper. Let stand 30 minutes. Cut into 1/2-inch slices.

Social Security Taxes Up Jan. 1

All working people covered by social security are reminded that the social security tax rate will be increased beginning with 1960. When employed people get their first pay envelopes or pay checks in January, they will find 3 percent instead of 2 1/2 percent deducted for social security tax purposes. Their employers will be paying a similarly increased amount.

The increased social security taxes which become effective Jan. 1, 1960, were enacted by Congress to assure the continuing self-supporting nature of the old-age and survivors trust fund and the disability trust fund in which the social security taxes of employees, their employers, and the self-employed are deposited. The increased taxes also help to pay for the greater benefits now available, averaging 7 percent over previous benefits.

Before amending the law to provide for the increased tax rates, Congress appointed an advisory council on social security financing to investigate the trust funds. This council was made up of representatives of labor, business, education, Government, and leading insurance companies. They recently reported:

"It is our judgment, based on the best available cost estimates, that the contribution (social security tax) schedule enacted into law in the 1958 session of Congress, makes adequate provision for financing the program on a sound actuarial basis."

Soviet Retail Employees Have a Beef

Installment buying in the Soviet Union, which was legalized there last month, may be meeting with the approval of the general consuming public, but not retail store employees. They protest that their earnings suffer on account of time-buying.

Retail sales people in Russia receive a wage, plus a bonus on sales. Under installment buying, however, their bonuses are calculated only on the basis of the down payment, about 25 percent of the total price.

At least one group of employees has pointed this out indignantly. Through their organization, the Rostov Trade Union Workers, they protested to the Soviet trade delegation in Moscow: "It is necessary for shop assistants to have a material incentive in the expansion of the new form of sales."

Amen.

lighter side of the

record

Don't Matter to Him

"They say you married your wife because her aunt left her a fortune," a man in a club informed his companion.

"That's not true," was the reply. "I'd have married her no matter who left it to her."

Opportunity

"How much is the hotel bill?"

"Seventy-five dollars."

"Seventy-five dollars!"

"Yes—\$40 for room, \$35 for meals."

"Thirty-five dollars for meals? But we didn't eat a meal here!"

"The meals were here. If you didn't eat them, that is your fault."

"Then I will charge you \$35 for kissing my wife."

"But I didn't kiss your wife!"

"That's okay. She was here. If you didn't kiss her, that's your fault."

"Your bill will be \$40."

Canine Resemblance

"Our dog is like one of the family."

"Really! Which one?"

Everyone Picks On Him

Personnel Manager: "For this job we want a responsible man."

Applicant: "That's me. Wherever I have worked if anything went wrong, they told me that I was responsible."

Revenge

One cold winter morning an indignant-looking lady, carrying a gallon gasoline can, came trudging up to a gas station. Assuming she was out of gas somewhere along the road, the proprietor offered to drive her back to her car after he filled the can.

"Oh, no, thanks," she said grimly, as she handed it to him. "And don't fill it. Just put in enough to get me to the supermarket and back home. I'll fix my husband for leaving me with an empty tank on my day to have the car."

Conversation Stoppers

"Well, Doctor, I think we'd be better off if the country adopted socialized medicine."

"Why, Mrs. Plankton, I didn't recognize you. You must have put on about 20 pounds since last summer."

"I'll have the 85-cent Chef's Special. And, waiter, I'd like to have sliced tomatoes instead of cole slaw. And, would you ask the chef to make the breading light on the veal cutlet?"

"I know this is the Speed Check-Out for eight items or less. But my wife is waiting in the car and there are only 20 or 30 items at most in my basket..."

"Does my whistling annoy you when you're trying to sink a putt?"

Lost Cause

A man complained to a friend that he had caught his wife going through his pockets lately and it was making him frustrated.

"But why should it make you feel frustrated?" asked the friend.

"Because," replied the man, "she never finds anything."

A Little Shut-eye

The guest came downstairs after his first night at the hotel.

"I trust you had a comfortable night, sir?" said the manager.

"I had a terrible night," snapped the guest. "I didn't close my eyes all night."

"But that's your own fault, sir," retorted the manager. "If you want to sleep, you must close your eyes."

Just Blubber

"Drop in some night," said the Eskimo, "and we'll chew the fat."

Reliable Source

In darkest Africa an assorted group of animals were conversing leisurely at a water hole. Suddenly a very agitated monkey burst upon them. "Run," he shouted. "Run for your lives! White hunters are approaching."

"Oh, you simians," a hippopotamus yawned. "Always first with the information. Now where, for example, did you get this piece of news?"

"Where?" chattered the monkey. "Why, it just came over the apevine."

Candid Comments

Girls and billiard balls kiss each other with about the same amount of feeling.

Unfortunately, it doesn't follow that every fishwife is married to a fish.

Nothing is more conducive to enjoying a happy life than the ability to be uninfluenced by what others say about you—good or bad.

The farm youngster got his first glimpse of a ferris wheel when he went to a carnival and on returning home he described it as "kind of like a round ski lift."

You're never too old to learn — unless, of course, you're a gambler.

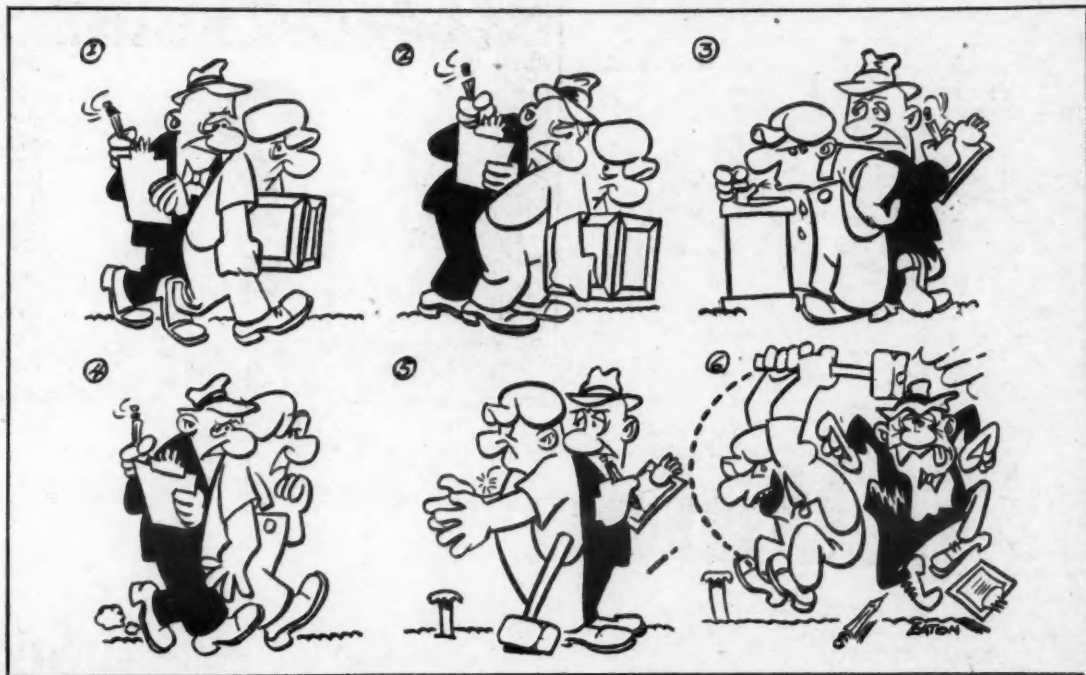
An automobile saves you almost as much time as you have to spend looking for a place to park it.

The average husband can't afford to win an argument from his wife. It costs more to get her to stop crying than she wanted in the first place.

Steady, Man!

Jenkins had imbibed too freely at the party but was determined to be careful and not give himself away. During the evening another guest insisted that the hostess exhibit the latest addition to her family. Soon after she appeared with a basket containing twins. The woozy Jenkins gazed into the basket, blinked his eyes, steadied himself as best he could and exclaimed:

"My, what a beautiful baby!"



Christmas or any other time, Maggie Pierce of MGM's "Never So Few" rates high in stockings.



1960 Contest Begins

Once again The Record is sponsoring a contest to pick the most beautiful girl in the RWDSU and bestow on her the title of Union Queen. As in past Union Queen contests, the winner will receive many valuable prizes. And there'll be prizes for the runners-up too!

In the 1956 Union Queen contest, the winner, Bernice Caraway of Birmingham, Alabama, won a trip to New York where she appeared on the Steve Allen television show. The 1958 Union Queen, Anita McKay, was guest of honor at the RWDSU convention in Chicago.

The new Union Queen, in addition to other prizes, will be guest of honor at the RWDSU General Council Meeting in Atlantic City next June!

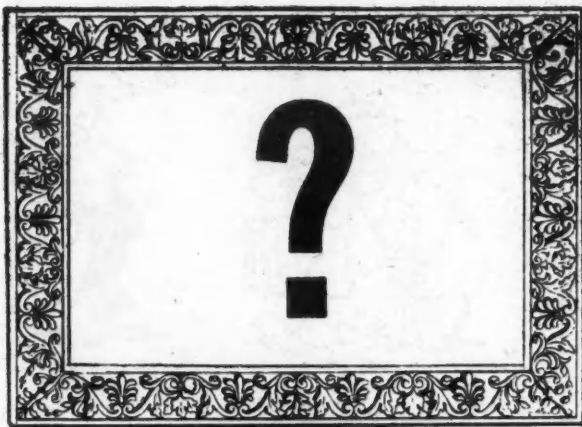
If you want to compete for the title of Union Queen, just follow the simple rules below and send in your entry as soon as possible. (If you know of a beauty in your shop or local, urge her to enter). Any RWDSU member is eligible; here's all you have to do to enter:

- Send in your best photos, preferably in bathing suit, since both face and figure count in this contest. Print name and address clearly on back of each photo. All photos will be returned.

- Together with photos, send following information: name, home address, number of local, name of shop where employed, job title, and personal description, including age, color of hair and eyes, height, weight, and measurement of bust, waist and hips.

- The entries will be narrowed down to five finalists by a committee of judges prominent in the entertainment world. Then RWDSU members will choose the winner from among the finalists by mailing in a coupon ballot which will appear in The Record.

Send all entries to The Record's Beauty Contest, 132 West 43 Street, New York 36, N. Y.



Union

Queen

